

Iraq urges Iran sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Iran's continued failure to accept the U.N. Security Council's July 20 ceasefire call should cause members to impose sanctions, Iraq said on Friday. Ismat Kittani, the chief Iraqi delegate, said an oil embargo against Iran would be the easiest measure to enforce, but an arms ban could also be effective if all states observed it. He said he hoped the council would be nearer to a decision by the end of next week after U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev discussed the problem at their summit in Washington. In an unusual development, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar briefed U.S. and Soviet officials together on Thursday after his two-day talks with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Jawad Larjani. Enforcement measures against Iran through a council resolution require the concurrence of both superpowers, as well as the other permanent council members: China, France and Britain. Iraq accepted the ceasefire call on condition that Iran did also, but Mr. Kittani said the Iranians had engaged only in procrastination and manoeuvres.

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Arab-Americans want Yaron out

WASHINGTON (R) — An Arab-American group has launched a campaign to have Israel's top military attaché expelled from the United States, accusing him of complicity in the Beirut massacre in 1982. Amos Yaron, an Israeli major-general who heads his country's military mission here, is the target of the drive by the Arab-American Anti-Defamation League which accuses him of overseeing the 1982 massacre at the west Beirut refugee camps that left hundreds dead and wounded. "He oversaw the massacre," says Faris Bouhafa, spokesman for the league. "It's that simple. In 1982, he was the officer in charge of western Beirut. He provided the flares, some of the equipment. He allowed the Falangists to kill the innocent men, women and children." An Israeli government investigation cleared Yaron of complicity but concluded that he and other Israeli officials were negligent in not stopping the Falangists from the slaughter. Yaron was stripped of his field command and assigned to another job.

France reassures Iraq on ties

PARIS (R) — France reassured Iraq on Friday that its policy of support was unchanged despite moves to improve ties with Iran. Foreign Ministry spokesman said the assurance was given by a senior ministry official during a meeting in Paris with Iraqi ambassador Abdul Razak Al ashemi. An Iraqi newspaper, in clear criticism of France's diplomatic swap with Iran following a release of two French hostages in Lebanon, on Thursday denounced deals with terrorists (see page 2).

U.S. pays \$90m to U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (USIA) — U.S. Ambassador Vernon Walters delivered a cheque on Thursday to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for \$90 million, which is partial payment of the U.S. 1987 assessment. The United Nations has now received \$100 million from the United States this year toward its \$212-million assessment.

MTI sets deadline for Ibn Ali

IRIS (R) — Outlawed Muslim fundamentalists on Friday gave Muslim leaders six months to carry out promised reforms or face release of scores of political prisoners. A Paris spokesman for the banned Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI) said President Ali Abdullatif ibn Ali, hailed a moderate when he overthrew the Bourguiba, had no more than six months to prove himself coming to terms with the MTI. The president does not reverse his predecessor's hardline policies in six months, he risks losing credibility with the people, said Mokri told Reuters in an interview. "Tunisia is a Muslim country after all," he said. "Our movement is respected. People are not going to wait years for Ibn Ali to come to terms with us."

Ibn Nidal group romances 'surprise'

DON (AP) — Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal said today that an investigation of the Europeans seized aboard a flight last month has been completed and noted: "There will be a surprise soon." Walid Khaled, a senior lieutenant with Fatah Revolutionary Council, declined to elaborate when he spoke to reporters in Sidon. But he said the group was in good health and at the International Red Cross will be allowed to visit them soon. Khaled claimed that a group of five Belgians and three French people, when the guerrillas seized a boat off the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

Gorbachev denies rift with Assad

IRIS (R) — Kremlin number one Yegor Ligachev, often seen as the West as head of a conservative faction stalling the reforms of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, has denied any conflict with the party leader. "I know at you write about me," Mr. Gorbachev, who is in charge of foreign policy, said in an interview with Le Monde newspaper on Thursday. "But I want to tell you: Gorbachev and myself work together in a very friendly way. There is no difference between

Joint committee concludes Cairo meeting with agreement to boost cooperation in all aspects

Jordan and Egypt to sign barter trade agreement

By a Jordan Times Staff writer

THE JOINT Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee ended a two-day meeting in Cairo on Friday and agreed to sign a barter trade agreement later this month.

A statement issued in Cairo after the meeting of the committee said the agreement would be signed in Amman in the second half of December by a joint commercial committee. No figures were mentioned.

Under the barter deal Jordan would mainly get ammonium, ammonia nitrate, rice and cotton and Egypt would in turn get cement, raw materials for detergents, wool and glass. Reuters said in a dispatch from Cairo.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency said world prices would be the basis for the exchange of goods.

In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the committee said Jordan and Egypt expressed keen interest in enhancing brotherly ties in all fields and in the context of complete bilateral coordination and cooperation.

The statement said the committee noted the close ties of cooperation between Jordan and Egypt and said solid foundations of cooperation had been laid down by His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

At the conclusion of the committee's meetings, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his Egyptian counterpart Atef Sedki signed the minutes of the meeting. The minutes said that both sides had approved the programme of cooperation and coordination in the fields of economy, trade, agriculture, information, tourism, health, labour, transport, communications, higher education, energy, electricity, mining and planning.

The committee also recommended that Jordan, Egypt and Iraq hold consultations on prospects for setting up a new joint company for land transport following the formal establishment of the Arab Maritime Bridge Company earlier this week.

The committee further agreed

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Iraqis keep up raids on Iran's shipping; U.N. talks seen to have made no progress

Rafsanjani threatens Kuwait over barge in Gulf

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi warplanes hit a large maritime target — Baghdad's usual term for a tanker or cargo ship — off the Iranian coast on Friday, Baghdad Radio said.

An Iraqi military spokesman, quoted by the radio, said the aircraft scored an accurate and effective hit at 0710 a.m. (0410 GMT) before returning safely to base.

Iraq has reported attacks on more than 20 vessels in the past month. Shipping sources have been able to confirm only some of them.

On Thursday, the sources confirmed Iraqi strikes on two supertankers taking part in Iran's oil shuttle in the past six days.

In other developments, anti-government guerrillas claimed they killed 80 Iranian soldiers and

wounded another 143 in their first major attack in the southern part of the oil-rich Khuzestan province.

In New York, Iran reiterated it would not agree to a ceasefire in the seven-year-old conflict until the United Nations branded Iraq "the aggressor."

Iran has warned Kuwait not to allow U.S. forces to moor a barge in the emirate's waters and threatened to capture it if deployed, the official news agency reported Friday.

Despite statements by American officials that Kuwait agreed to allow the use of such a barge, Kuwait again reiterated it would not grant military facilities to foreign powers in its waters.

"If you give them floating bases, you must give us one, too," the Islamic Republic News

Agency quoted Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying Thursday at a "bug" gathering of war volunteers.

"Otherwise if we seize this base one day in case of a confrontation, you would have no claim against us."

U.S. Defence Department officials said earlier this week in Brussels that Washington and Kuwait had agreed to use a barge in Kuwaiti territorial waters as a floating base for American forces.

But on Thursday, Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah restated Kuwait's policy of not allowing such facilities.

"Kuwait will not sign any agreement with any party that grants bases or military facilities

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Aziz praises contacts between Iraq and Syria

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said on Friday that recent contacts between Baghdad and Damascus were constructive and he predicted Syria's relationship with Iraq would not last much longer.

Interviewed by Beirut's Voice of Lebanon radio station, Mr. Aziz said Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had an objective and constructive talk at the Arab summit in Amman last month. "We considered the atmosphere as positive and heralding a new style in treating inter-Arab issues," Mr. Aziz said in Baghdad.

Mr. Aziz praised Syria for agreeing to a resolution at Amman that condemned Iraq for its occupation of Iraqi land, its missile attacks on Kuwait and refusal to accept United Nations ceasefire demands.

He said relations between Syria and Iraq were "illogical, illegitimate and short-lived because their motives are temporary."

Mr. Aziz also said there were links between Iraq and Israel that started in Lebanon and both states "have interests in dividing the Arab states on sectarian and religious basis."

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Hassan II: Israel is not a nuclear threat to Arabs

CAIRO (R) — King Hassan II of Morocco said in a newspaper interview published on Friday that Israeli nuclear warheads "threatened the Soviet Union and not the Arab World."

The king told the semi-official Al Ahrar that Israel's nuclear weapons were an American reply to Moscow for supporting Cuba close to the United States.

"I do not fear Israeli nuclear warheads... they are not directed against Arab countries and could not be used in the region without to a large extent endangering (Israel's) own safety," King Hassan said.

Israel does not admit to having nuclear weapons.

King Hassan said Washington had chosen Israel as its Cuban-style ally because of U.S. differences with the Arab World over

the Palestinian problem. He welcomed proposals for a Middle East peace conference but said he did not believe it would achieve anything if Arab states failed to adopt a joint and unified strategy.

The king said he had no new initiatives to revive the peace process but he advised Arab parties closely involved — Jordan, Syria and the Palestinians — to find even an interim joint formula and to shelve their differences.

On the Iran-Iraq war, King Hassan proposed an Islamic conference to examine all origins of the conflict.

"I still hope for an Islamic summit, which might not solve the problem, but might build bridges and differentiate between the religious and the political aspects of the war," he said.

EEC summit opens in Copenhagen with focus on cash crisis

COPENHAGEN (Agencies) — Leaders of the European Economic Community (EEC) began a key summit Friday, knowing that failure to solve a cash crisis will bankrupt the giant trading bloc and wither its influence as the superpowers meet.

The leaders are also to discuss East-West relations in light of Soviet moves toward more openness, the Iran-Iraq war and "terrorism."

The summit launched straight into a debate on agriculture, the most divisive issue in their efforts to solve the EEC's financial crisis.

Officials said there was a little movement from Britain and West Germany but nowhere near enough to close the yawning gap between them on how to control runaway farm spending.

"I'd say every country has pretty well stuck to its position," one minister told reporters.

The 12 member states know that the money to fund the community will run out next year unless a deal is struck and are keen to show Europe in a good light before next week's U.S.-Soviet summit.

Diplomats said that as he opened the meeting — held in a converted warehouse by Copenhagen's old harbour — Danish Prime Minister Poul Schluter told his colleagues: "Now is the time to decide."

Qasem briefs Belgian and Dutch leaders on results of Arab summit

BRUSSELS (Petra) — Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem on Thursday briefed Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens on the outcome of the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit in Amman and the efforts which His Majesty King Hussein exerted during the summit to ensure its success and to come up with positive decisions.

Mr. Qasem also explained the situation in the region in general and in the Gulf in particular and the grave consequences of Iraq's escalation of its war against Iran and neighbouring countries and stressed the need for ending the war in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

He also explained the latest developments and difficulties in efforts "towards convening an international peace conference on the Middle East."

The Royal Court chief voiced Jordan's thanks and appreciation of the European stand in support of the idea of convening an international conference.

Mr. Qasem also expressed hope that the European summit, which opened in Copenhagen on Friday, would discuss the Middle East issue and called on Europe to continue its efforts and endeavours towards realising the goal of convening the proposed international peace conference.

Mr. Martens asked Mr. Qasem to convey the greetings of King Baudouin to His Majesty and expressed deep admiration of the balanced role and wise and real

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Mubarak sends messages on Mideast and Gulf to Reagan and Gorbachev

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak has sent messages to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in connection with their talks in Washington next week, a Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

The official, who refused to be named under ministry rules, told reporters the messages "were delivered in Cairo today" to the embassies of the two superpowers for transmission.

He gave no details of the contents.

Government sources quoted by AP said the messages urged Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev to consider ways of promoting peaceful solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war.

The Israeli foreign minister, Shimon Peres, said Friday that the U.S.-Soviet summit represents a "lost opportunity" for achieving peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Gorbachev had become so popular in the United States that he no longer needed to make concessions on issues like Middle East peace in order to improve the climate for superpower talks. Mr. Peres said in an interview on Israel Radio.

The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, who in contrast to Mr. Peres has promoted a non-activist peace policy, indicated satisfaction that the Arab-Israeli conflict is not at the top of the agenda, either in the Middle East or at the Dec. 7 summit in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Shamir, speaking to the foreign press association on Thursday, said the summit could result in "an effort to do something for furthering the peace process in our area."

"But it depends on the success of the more important issues that will be discussed during (the summit) and also on the results of the elections in the United States and Israel (in 1988)."

While saying he was pleased about the prospects for a nuclear arms accord, Mr. Peres said he had mixed feelings about the summit because the chances appeared diminished for reviving Arab-Israeli dialogue.

"I look at this (summit) with a sort of double feeling... I have a

(Continued on page 4)

Israel stages army exercises against background of glider raid and fence clash

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Israeli army said on Friday it conducted overnight exercises at brigade strength in southern Israel.

Paratroopers, tanks, artillery and aircraft took part in the manoeuvres which, in coordination with civilian settlements, tested response to surprise attack, an army spokesman said.

The drill came at a time of extensive self-examination for the army after a lone Palestinian commando last week flew across Israel's northern border on a powered glider, entered an army camp and killed six soldiers before he was shot dead.

Subsequent investigations showed a lack of preparedness at the camp, arousing concern that the level of alertness throughout

the army has fallen dangerously.

The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, warned Thursday that commandos "will not be spared" for their role in the glider attack.

Mr. Shamir's comments came a day after the army took the rare step of calling for the prosecution of soldiers involved in a security lapse at the military post raided last week.

The army said interim reports found that officers at the army camp did not respond properly to alerts that a guerrilla attack by air was imminent and a guard at the camp gate fled his post when the lone guerrilla attacked.

"The brigade commander... will be transferred from his post... to a different post within the armed forces," an army spokes-

man said.

"The brigade operations officer, who was the senior... commander in the camp during the incident will conclude his service... legal proceedings will be brought against him, legal proceedings will also be brought against the soldier who was guarding the camp entrance," the spokesman said.

Friday's exercise also came after an attack launched against Israel earlier this week from Egypt. Two guerrillas cut the border fence and opened fire on Israeli soldiers, slightly wounding one. It was the first attack since the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian treaty.

There was no indication that the exercise was in response to

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Settler held for murder of Gaza schoolgirl

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Magistrates in the southern town of Ashkelon remanded in custody on Friday an Israeli settler from the occupied Gaza Strip who is suspected of shooting dead a teenage Palestinian girl last month.

Magistrates remanded Shimon Yifrah, 30, a schoolteacher and father of two girls, in custody for eight days. They acted after police ballistics experts said the bullet that killed 17-year-old Intissar Atar was almost certainly fired from Yifrah's pistol.

Three other settlers arrested with Yifrah on Thursday in connection with the killing were released on bail of \$6,000 each.

Police sources said they were expected to face charges of concealing evidence.

Miss Atar was killed on Nov. 10 outside a high school in Deir Al Balah in the Gaza Strip.

Police said at the time that she was apparently shot when pupils blocked the road outside and

stoned Israeli vehicles.

Sources later said the girl's body was found inside the schoolyard, well away from the barricade. A teacher at the school told police that shots were fired into the yard.

Yifrah has taken part in a filmed re-enactment of the incident and police said he had admitted firing at crowd level to disperse pupils throwing stones.

Sources said police had also identified a man suspected of shooting two Palestinian schoolgirls in Gaza City on Nov. 11 and expected to arrest him shortly.

In another incident, the Israeli army conducted an overnight raid on a university on Bethlehem, confiscating books and Palestinian flags, a school official and military sources said Friday.

The raid appeared to be part of recent army measures aimed at curbing Palestinian activists in Bethlehem before this month's Christmas celebrations, which are expected to draw some 10,000

tourists and pilgrims to the Israeli-occupied city.

Israeli authorities closed down the Vatican-sponsored Bethlehem University for three months on Oct. 29 after a violent student protest in which a 22-year-old student was shot to death by an army marksman.

About 30 Israeli soldiers entered the hilltop campus late Wednesday night and searched classrooms until early Thursday. Brother Anton de Roeper, the deputy dean of the university, told AP.

"They apparently had a warrant which I could not read, since it was in Hebrew. They confiscated a number of books and, of course, Palestinian flags," he said in a telephone interview.

Brother de Roeper said soldiers also broke into the student council room after they could not find a key.

"It was my first experience of that sort," said the official, a British-born Roman Catholic

who has lived on the premises since the summer of 1986.

In other incidents, a bomb exploded in an Israeli train travelling between Haifa and Tel Aviv on Thursday, but a railway worker said no-one was hurt and only slight damage was caused.

Police said the blast, in an empty carriage, was presumed to be the work of Palestinian nationalists.

In the occupied West Bank, an attacker hurled two bombs at a passing Israeli bus. One of the devices landed inside the bus, but neither exploded, sources said.

Israeli military judges in the West Bank on Thursday found an Arab guilty of the 1985 killing of a soldier, a court statement said.

Ahmad Abu Jahar, 28, from the village of Kafr Kassem, was also convicted of shooting at an Israeli bus, illegally having explosives and belonging to Fatah, the court said.

He will be sentenced next week.

Reagan sees 'good chance' for strategic arms accord

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union have "a reasonably good chance" to take "another gigantic step forward in the elimination of nuclear weapons" by concluding a strategic arms agreement in Moscow next year, President Ronald Reagan said Thursday.

Mr. Reagan told commentators from four U.S. television networks he would be "very disappointed" if the Moscow summit does not take place.

The two sides hold out hope that an agreement reducing their nuclear arsenals by half can be signed at such a meeting between Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The president and the Soviet Communist Party general secretary will attempt to narrow the differences blocking agreement on halving the number of strategic weapons in their third summit, in Washington Dec. 8-10. In advance of that meeting, Mr. Gorbachev had given a one-

hour interview to one major U.S. television network. The president was questioned for 30 minutes by newscasters from the four major networks. Mr. Reagan touched on his view of the Iran-contra scandal and the health of the dollar, as well as summit topics.

Mr. Reagan told a questioner he'd be "very disappointed" if failure to reach a strategic arms agreement meant that the Moscow trip did not occur. "I just don't think that's going to happen," he said. "I think that we're going to have a meeting in Moscow, and I think there is a reasonably good chance that we will make another gigantic step forward in the elimination of nuclear weapons."

The president intends to sign at the Washington summit an historic accord eliminating an entire class of nuclear missiles, those with ranges from 500 to 5,500 kilometres, and be defended that decision against criticism from people in his own political party

Japanese police seek to identify KAL suspect couple

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japanese police began checking the fingerprints on Friday of a mystery couple who took poison capsules after disembarking from a South Korean jet which disappeared near Burma on Sunday.

The couple, carrying false Japanese passports, tried to commit suicide on Tuesday while being questioned in Bahrain. The man died and the woman is in hospital under heavy guard, having regained consciousness.

Mystery over the airliner's fate deepened after crew members who left the plane in Abu Dhabi said on Friday they found nothing suspicious about the couple.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman said copies of their fingerprints and passports arrived in Tokyo on Friday, giving authorities a chance to identify them.

South Korean officials have said they believe the two were Korean residents of Japan connected to North Korea who might have placed a bomb on the Ko-

rean Air Lines (KAL) flight before getting off in Abu Dhabi. The plane, with 115 people aboard, has not been found but is believed to have crashed either in the Andaman Sea or in dense jungle near the Thai-Burmese border.

Japanese officials have said the dead man in Bahrain could be a suspect in a 1985 North Korean spy ring case and his fingerprints should prove conclusively whether or not the two men are the same person.

But the Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to say when the results of the fingerprints check would be released.

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Tehran says outlook for ties with France 'good'

NICOSIA, Cyprus (Agencies) — Iran has denied that an Iranian interpreter was allowed to leave France only as part of a wider deal involving the release of two Frenchmen in Lebanon, the official news agency reported Friday.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Ali Ahani, the Foreign Ministry's director-general for Europe and America, as calling such reports, "groundless."

Iranian kidnappers late last week released the two French newsmen in west Beirut after saying they saw signs of improvements in France's policy.

French authorities on Sunday briefly questioned an Iranian embassy interpreter, Wahid Gordini, then allowed him to leave the country despite earlier allegations he was involved in terrorism.

For its part, Iran allowed French First Secretary Paul Torri in leave for home after an appearance before an Islamic tribunal.

There were widespread reports these moves were part of a deal. The Iranian agency, monitored in Nicosia, also quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Hussein Sheikholslam as saying the outlook for relations with France was "very good."

He said "Iran will take a step to match every French step to improve bilateral relations."

Mr. Sheikholslam, appearing with Ahani in an Iranian television interview broadcast Thursday night and reported by IRNA, said the "war of the embassies" ended after "secret and direct talks."

Mr. Sheikholslam said Iran's negotiations with the French government were assisted by the mediation efforts of Syria, Pakistan and Algeria.

He said the Foreign Ministry would soon decide whether to handle Iran's affairs. The two

countries broke relations earlier this year. On a \$1-billion loan owed to Iran, Mr. Sheikholslam rejected what he called France's claim that it need not pay interest on the money because Iran's Muslim faith banned the payment of interest.

The agency quoted him as saying receiving interest from non-Muslims was religiously authorised.

Mr. Ahani denied what IRNA called "rumours of the French arms sales to Iran," saying the rumours stemmed from domestic disputes between French political factions.

France has been rocked by allegations that some government leaders, including a former Defence Minister, Charles Hernu, were aware of the reported sales.

Iraq on Thursday aired a rare criticism of France over the Paris-Tehran diplomatic swap following the release of French hostages in Lebanon.

"We are unable to understand the fact that those who claim to fight terrorism and terrorists are dealing with terrorists and signing open and secret deals with them," said the ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra, without directly naming France.

The French are among Baghdad's main arms suppliers.

Al Thawra said Iran had employed terrorism and kidnapping of hostages to impose conditions and demands on certain parties to improve its financial, political and military situation.

"What does submission for open Iranian blackmail (mean) and how can we digest such a contradiction between allegation and practice...?" the newspaper

asked.

"Aren't such deals an open encouragement for terror and terrorism?"

It also asked: "Doesn't such an understanding by some, and submission for their blackmail, mean turning the world into injustice of the jungle?"

Both the United States and Britain have voiced fears that France compromised hopes of freeing more hostages in Lebanon by agreeing to deal with Iran, which they suspect of controlling the hostages' fate.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, seeking a vote of confidence from the French parliament on Thursday, said he would spare no effort to free more hostages held in Lebanon, including those of other nationalities.

Mr. Chirac referred to the hostages issue while opening a debate on the confidence vote.

Political analysts said Mr. Chirac was certain to win the vote of confidence on his economic and other policies, his third since he took power in March, 1986.

"No one should doubt our will to continue our efforts to free our kidnapped compatriots as well as the foreign hostages held in Lebanon," Mr. Chirac said.

It was the first time the conservative leader has spelled out that France, which is seeking to improve relations with Iran, could try to secure the release of non-French hostages.

Political sources said Mr. Chirac sought the confidence vote to discipline his fractious coalition partners and demonstrate his support ahead of the European Community summit opening in Copenhagen on Friday, at which tough talking is expected on several issues.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, accusing France of "treating with terrorism," has promised to bring up the hostages issues in Copenhagen.

Shamir hints Awad will be expelled

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has claimed a Palestinian advocate of non-violent resistance to Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip was allied with gunmen and hinted he would be expelled.

Shamir stressed that Muharak Awad, a naturalised American who was born in Jerusalem, was in the country illegally because his tourist visa expired on Nov. 20.

Shamir declined to say what action he would take or when it would be taken but suggested that Mr. Awad could be expelled or prevented from re-entering Israel if he travelled abroad.

"I can only say his stay in our country is illegal, and the result will be in accordance with it," Shamir told a Foreign Press Association luncheon.

In his first detailed comments on the Awad case, Shamir said Mr. Awad identified with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

In reaction, Mr. Awad confirmed he, like most other Palestinians, supported Yasser Arafat's PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people.

"I think even Shamir has to realise Palestinians identify with the PLO as their representative. But this doesn't mean we have to agree with everything the PLO leaders do," he told the Associated Press.

Mr. Awad, 44, is the director of the Palestine Centre for the Study of Non-Violence in Jerusalem and also has a counselling service for delinquent teenagers in Wapokoneta, Ohio.

He describes himself as an adherent of the non-violent philosophy of the late Indian leader Mahatma K. Gandhi and the American civil rights leader Martin Luther King.

Mr. Awad has won the backing of the U.S. government.

Mr. Awad mapped out his beliefs in a position paper entitled "Non-violent resistance: A strategy for the occupied territories."

"In it, he proposes a campaign of civil disobedience and calls on the 1.4 million Palestinians in the occupied territories to refuse to pay taxes, to undermine the morale of Israeli soldiers, cut utility lines, and block the roads."

Shamir said Mr. Awad advocated "acts of sabotage" without using dynamite or killing people.

"Therefore I would say his claim that he is for non-violent methods of struggle is only a facon de parler (manner of speaking), and he belongs to all those elements who work against the well-being, security and stability of life in this part of the country," said Shamir.

Kuwait reopens missile-hit offshore oil terminal

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait said on Thursday it had reopened its main Gulf oil-exporting terminal which was shut on Oct. 22 by a missile attack it blamed on Iran.

Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah told visiting British journalists the Sea Island terminal, 10 miles off the emirate's main oil port of Mina Al Ahmadi, reopened earlier this week.

Oil industry sources said two tankers loaded there on Monday for the first time since the missile strike. The terminal was then shut again while repairs continued but would reopen on Friday or Saturday.

Kuwait said Iran fired a Chinese-designed Silkworm missile at the terminal, which handled a third of the emirate's crude oil exports, as part of a series of strikes against oil targets off its coast.

Iran has singled out Kuwaiti targets in response to the emirate's support for Iraq in the Gulf war.

The journalists visiting the terminal on Thursday found repairs still in progress and a jagged hole in one end of the central platform.

The sources said that although only three of the terminal's four loading arms were operational, loading could probably take place at a normal rate.

The deep-water terminal accommodates larger tankers which can only partially load at Mina Al Ahmadi.

Sheikh Salem confirmed Kuwait had lent a barge to the U.S. navy for use as an observation post in international waters.

He said the barge would be moored 12 miles offshore, just outside the territorial limit, in the neutral zone whose oil is shared by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Its main function would be to monitor Iranian naval movements.

Some 30 American warships are in the region to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers flying the Stars and Stripes from Iranian attack.

Diplomatic sources said the position of the barge would put it well outside the range of Iranian Silkworms fired from the occupied Iraqi Fao peninsula some 200 kilometres away.

Iran on Thursday criticised the Kuwaiti move, warning of dangerous consequences.

Sheikh Salem also said Kuwait would decide in two to three weeks whether to buy new anti-missile systems. He said it was studying offers from Britain, France and the United States.

He also said Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) defence ministers meeting in Abu Dhabi last month had agreed on a timetable for joint military exercises code-named "Peninsula Shield."

The GCC — which groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates — has formed a joint defence force based in northern Saudi Arabia.

Kuwaiti officials, seeking to protect their coastal oil terminal complex against Iranian missiles, have deployed several large barges in offshore waters with metal grids to "decoy" the radar-guided projectiles, U.S. sources said Wednesday.

The sources, asking not to be identified, said there was no American military role connected with the barges and their only

function is to divert the long-range anti-ship missiles from other targets.

They are located in Kuwait's territorial waters near the Al Ahmadi terminal.

In that respect they differ from two other barges that the United States has leased and anchored in international waters farther south along the coast, to serve as supply bases and helicopter platforms in support of the navy's convoy operations.

The sources said Kuwait's anti-missile barges were similar to those used by the Iranians to protect their own port of Bushehr, 225 kilometres away on the opposite side of the Gulf, from the same type of attack.

Iraqi warplanes regularly attack Iran's coastal shipping with French-made, radar-guided Exocet missiles.

The sources revealed that one of the Iranian barges broke loose from its moorings recently and drifted into international waters, where it was destroyed by gunfire from a U.S. Navy missile cruiser, the Richmond K. Turner.

Senate panel upholds ban on Stinger sales to Bahrain

WASHINGTON (R) — A Senate committee, ignoring appeals from the Reagan administration, has upheld a ban on a planned sale of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Bahrain.

The vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee was 16-10.

The Reagan administration says Bahrain needs the missiles to defend itself against possible attacks by Iran, which has been at war with Iraq for seven years.

The Senate committee vote came on a measure that would have exempted Bahrain from a ban on Stinger sales to governments in the Gulf region.

The measure was proposed after the committee received an hour-long closed-door briefing from Defence Secretary Frank

Carlucci, Adm. William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Richard Armitage, assistant defence secretary for international security affairs.

The ban on Stinger sales in the Gulf is contained in a Foreign Aid Bill approved on Tuesday.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said on Wednesday Bahrain had provided extraordinary support for the U.S. escort of U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf that began in July.

This support had made Bahrain "even more vulnerable to Iranian military threats," Mr. Fitzwater said. "The Stinger missile is precisely what Bahrain needs to fill gaps in its defences against the most likely threat, and no other system can do the job as well."

Arms dealer charged in plot to ship helicopters to Iraq

MIAMI (R) — An international arms dealer nicknamed the "merchant of death" has been indicted on charges of plotting to smuggle U.S. combat helicopters and other weapons to Iraq, federal prosecutors said on Thursday.

Pat O'Brien, special agent in charge of the U.S. Customs Service office in Miami, described the alleged shipment as "the kind of deal that changes the way a war goes."

Arms dealer Sarkis Soghannalian and three other men are charged with conspiring to violate a U.S. ban on arms sales to Iraq, said Ana Barnett, a spokeswoman for the federal prosecutor's office here.

Also indicted were Soghannalian's son, Garabet and two executives of the Hughes Helicopter Company.

In a pair of indictments, Soghannalian, a Lebanese citizen reputed to be one of the world's wealthiest arms dealers, and his son are accused of trying to ship 103 battle-ready Hughes 500-MD/Tow helicopters to Iraq in 1983.

The helicopters were worth some \$500 million.

The indictments also allege that Soghannalian flew two U.S. Air Force reservists to Iraq in 1985 to instruct the Iraqi military on how to fly an F-4 jet fighter captured in Baghdad's war with Iran.

Pakistani army personnel returning from S. Arabia

ISLAMABAD (R) — Several thousand Pakistani military personnel seconded to Saudi Arabia are being sent home on completion of their assignments, a Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman has said.

Answering questions at a news briefing, he said other Pakistani personnel would continue to serve in the kingdom, but declined to give details or specific figures.

"A few thousand are still there and a few thousand have come back," he said.

Pakistan has had a military force, including instructors and trainers, on secondment to the Saudi Armed Forces for several years.

The official Saudi Press Agency (SPA), quoting Saudi defence sources, said on Wednesday "the return of Pakistani soldiers to their country comes on the expiry of the agreement between the

Saudi and Pakistan governments and on the completion of the task they came for — namely in the field of military and technical training."

The SPA report, monitored in Bahrain, said Saudi Arabia did not intend to replace the Pakistanis with troops from other nations.

The spokesman said there were no differences between the two governments over the issue and the fact that Riyadh could do without them was a sign they had succeeded in their mission.

"The best and most successful of these foreign assistance programmes are when individuals render themselves dispensable," he said.

Pakistan is predominantly Sunni Muslim, like Saudi Arabia. But it has an estimated 15 per cent minority of Shi'ites, as in neighbouring Iran.

U.S. orders closure of Palestine Information Office

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The Palestine Information Office (PIO) in Washington has been ordered to close by midnight Dec. 3, the United States has announced.

Last September 15, the State Department ordered the office closed, finding that it had been operating as a "foreign mission" of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Initially, the PIO was given 30 days to wind up its business and close down, but a delay was granted to allow the court to rule on the PIO claim that the State Department

order was unconstitutional, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

U.S. District Court Judge Charles Richey ruled on Dec. 2 that Secretary of State George Shultz "acted lawfully in determining that the PIO is a 'foreign mission' of the PLO" that could be closed under the Foreign Missions Act.

The PIO announced that it was appealing Judge Richey's ruling.

"I really have no information as to how this appeal affects the process," Mr. Redman said.

U.N. seeks \$85m aid for Lebanon

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations has launched an international appeal for \$85 million worth of food and other supplies to help 250,000 Lebanese families in need of immediate assistance.

"I am deeply concerned about the human misery facing the people of Lebanon," Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in a statement.

"The accelerated deterioration of the economic and social situation throughout Lebanon warrants the solidarity and urgent assistance of the international community."

Syria said to have freed 150 PLO members from jail

BAHRAIN (R) — Syria has released from prison 150 supporters of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, the Saudi-owned Asharq Al Awsat newspaper has said.

The newspaper, quoting informed Palestinian sources in Beirut, said they had been in Syrian jails since Mr. Arafat was expelled from Tripoli in 1983 by Palestinian factions opposed to his leadership.

It said the 150 were freed over the past two weeks and the remaining prisoners were expected to be released in the next few weeks. The newspaper did not say how many there were left.

Asbark Al Awsat predicted an improvement in coming days in the PLO's relations with Syria and the Shi'ite Amal militia in Lebanon. It said steps were underway to reopen the PLO office in west Beirut, closed since the Israeli invasion of 1982.

The office would be located on Corniche Al Mazraa, it said.

The last hurdles in efforts to repair relations were overcome in the past two days, the newspaper said.

It said the parties had reached agreement on where to locate Palestinian fighters who had abandoned positions east of Sidon and in other areas.

In quoted PLO leaders in Tunis as saying the countdown had begun towards normalising relations with Syria.

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PROGRAMME ONE

18:30 Koran

19:00 Programme Review

19:30 Children's programme

19:45 The Bunny

20:00 Eureka

20:15 French Teaching Programme

20:30 Animals, Animals

20:45 How Things Work

21:00 Play House

21:15 Seven Wonders of the World (Arabic)

19:00 Message from Iraq

19:15 Family programme

19:30 Programme review

19:45 News in Arabic

20:00 A Jolly Good Show

20:15 World News

20:30 World News

20:45 World News

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Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath begin private visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath have begun a private visit to The Netherlands and Luxembourg expected to last several days.

The Prince and Princess were seen off upon their departure by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Chief Islamic Justice Mohammad Mheilan and several Royal Court officials.

Jordan and Spain exchange views on parliamentary affairs

MADRID (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation currently on a visit to Spain held a meeting here with the foreign affairs committee of the Spanish Senate to discuss issues of common interest to the two countries.

The Jordanian delegation, led by Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, exchanged views with the Spanish senators on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Gulf war, the conflict in Lebanon and the outcome of the Amman extraordinary Arab summit.

During the Thursday meeting, Mr. Lawzi paid tribute to Spain for its support for the convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East. He also underlined the need for the U.N. Security Council to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Earlier, Mr. Lawzi and his accompanying delegation visited the Spanish Lower House of Parliament and met with representatives of various political parties.

Mr. Lawzi said that a visit to Jordan by the speaker of the Spanish Parliament would help to promote Jordanian-Spanish cooperation in parliamentary affairs.

The Jordanian delegation, which earlier conveyed a message to King Juan Carlos from His Majesty King Hussein, paid a visit to Madrid Municipality and met with the mayor and municipal council members.

Mr. Lawzi said that Jordan was hoping for a twinning between Amman and Madrid, in an effort to expand bilateral cooperation in municipal and public services.

Denmark to help Jordan build wind power station

AMMAN (J.T.) — Danish Minister of Energy Svend Erik Hvamand has left for home following a three-day visit to Jordan, during which he met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and took part in a seminar on oil and future development in the Arab World.

In a statement upon his departure on Thursday, the Danish minister said his talks with Prince Hassan were constructive and fruitful, and that they covered all scopes of cooperation, particularly in agriculture, energy research and electricity.

"Denmark and Jordan can forge productive cooperation in energy generation, especially in the exploitation of solar energy and wind power," Mr. Hvamand said.

He said that Denmark, which has advanced expertise and experience in these areas, would help Jordan build its first wind power station at Al Ibrahimieh, near Mazar in the north, in the first half of next year.

Mr. Hvamand said that this station would provide power to a model farm and, thus, replace imported energy sources.

17-year-old student dies in school-bus crash

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 17-year-old school student died in an accident involving the school bus in which he was riding.

A report in the Arabic daily Al Rai said that the accident, which took place here on Thursday, involved a private vehicle and the school bus.

The collision between the two vehicles, which occurred at a junction in the Rabieh district of Shmeisani, caused the bus to overturn, resulting in the death of Zaid Ahmad Al Arabi and the injury of several other students.

Qasem meets Dutch, Belgian leaders

(Continued from page 1)

diplomacy of the King.

Earlier on Thursday Mr. Qasem met with Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans and briefed him the results of the Amman summit. Mr. Qasem and Mr. Tindemans also discussed the grave situation in the Gulf, the Iranian buildup against Iraq and the necessity of holding an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Mr. Qasem visited The Hague earlier Thursday and met with Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van der Broek and briefed him on positive outcome of the Arab summit.

Mr. Qasem reiterated Jordan's determination to continue efforts to end the Gulf war and convene an international peace conference on the Middle East.

The Dutch minister voiced his

country's appreciation of the policies which Jordan was following under His Majesty the King and declared that The Netherlands' policy in particular and Europe's policy in general were identical with Jordan's stand and its efforts to put an end to the Gulf war and to remove all obstacles impeding the holding of an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In Tokyo, Japan's Prime Minister Noboru Takashita on Thursday, received a message from His Majesty in dealing with the outcome of the Amman summit.

The message was delivered Thursday by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who earlier met with former Japanese prime minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and the leader of the Liberal Party, Shintaro Abe. Mr. Masri was expected to meet with his Japanese counterpart on Friday.

Iraqis keep up raids on shipping

(Continued from page 1)

on its territory or in its territorial waters," Sheikh Salem was quoted as saying by the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

The Mujahideen-e-Khalq, the largest of the opposition groups fighting the government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, said just five of its fighters were killed in the Khuzestan raid Wednesday.

The targets were army bases 80 kilometres southwest of the city of Ahvaz. The Iranian government did not comment on the Mujahideen's report.

On Thursday, Iran reiterated it would not agree to a ceasefire until the United Nations branded Iraq "the aggressor."

Iran's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Larjani, also said his country was proceeding with a huge troop buildup while talking peace at the United Nations.

"There is an unprecedented mobilisation of forces in Iran. They are ready to act and they will act properly when it is needed," Mr. Larjani told reporters at a news conference.

The envoy spoke after two days of talks with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar about ending the war. Diplomatic sources said Mr. Perez de Cuellar remained "frustrated" and "impatient" after the talks and said Iran had not shown any flexibility.

At a press conference, Mr. Larjani said that Iran still links the identification of Iraq as "the aggressor" with the ceasefire.

The ceasefire, he said, then would give "breathing space" for all other elements in Mr. Perez de Cuellar's peace plan to be worked out. This would include border negotiations, troop withdrawal, and, if still necessary, an inquiry into the start of the war.

The two major obstacles in the negotiations, Mr. Larjani said, are Iraq's insistence in "the sequential implementation of Resolution 598" and the continued massive presence of foreign military vessels in the Gulf.

Mr. Larjani described his U.N. talks as "serious, fruitful, and constructive."

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz is expected in New York for talks with Mr. Perez de Cuellar Dec. 7.

Jordan to mark Int'l Voluntary Day by honouring charitable individuals, societies

AMMAN (J.T.) — A ceremony will be held today at the Royal Cultural Centre to mark International Voluntary Day.

An official announcement said that eight pioneers in voluntary work in the Kingdom will be awarded royal medals in recognition of their efforts. In addition, 26 charitable societies will receive shields in recognition of their contribution to humanitarian services to the community, according to the announcement.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Development, in cooperation with the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), has prepared a special programme for the event, which will last four days.

Pamphlets and posters highlighting voluntary and charitable work will be distributed by social and voluntary societies.

The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) will supervise the activities programme throughout the country.

As part of the programme, a special camp for organising voluntary work has been opened in Ajloun district. Some 100 students from Yarmouk University and community colleges in the district are taking part in the activities through which the camp will provide services to the local community. These activities include: planting trees, removing waste from public places and trimming trees.

An official opening ceremony for the camp was attended by Ajloun District Governor Mohammad Talhouni and other officials.

Seminar to tackle food security in Muslim World

By a Reporter

AMMAN — A three-day seminar entitled on "Food security in the Muslim World" will open here today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The seminar, which will open at the Royal Cultural Centre, is organised by the Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS) of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTEC). The academy comprises eminent Muslim scientists as its fellows.

The seminar was initiated upon the directives of Prince Hassan, who is patron of the academy jointly with President Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan, when he chaired the first meeting of the academy's council last June.

Fourteen working papers will be presented by top Muslim scientists and specialists, tackling the food security issue in the Muslim World from a multidisciplinary approach.

The papers cover four major areas relevant to the constraints of food availability in the Muslim World. These areas are:

- Scientific and technological approaches required to increase the production of food.
- Problems of nutrition and the proper utilisation of food elements to provide a balanced diet.
- Possibilities of enhancing direct trade of food commodities among Muslim countries.
- Case studies exposing the experience of some Muslim countries in the field of food and agriculture.

Among those who will be participating in the seminar are: the Malaysian minister of agriculture, the secretary of state for agriculture in Chad, the minister of social security and population affairs in Chad, the advisor to prime minister on agriculture in

Pakistan and the under secretary of the ministry of agriculture in Uganda.

In addition to the academy's founding fellows, delegations from Jordan, Gambia, Niger, Egypt, Kuwait, Senegal, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) will be attending the seminar.

The seminar will be concluded with the issuance of a declaration on food and security, addressing Muslim leaders, policy-makers, planners, the scientific community and the public at large, with the objective of increasing awareness and pooling efforts to face up to the challenges of food security in the Muslim countries.

The Islamic Academy of Sciences will also publish the proceedings of the seminar in a book form and distribute it, so that it can reach the widest possible audience.

Swedish minister ends visit described as opportunity for excellent contacts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Swedish Minister of Energy and the Environment Birgitta Dahl has ended a four-day visit to Jordan, which the Swedish Ambassador to Jordan, Lars Lonnback described as an opportunity "for excellent contacts" for bilateral, as well as broader exchanges, in the fields of energy, oil and the environment.

Mrs. Dahl left Amman on Thursday after taking part in a seminar on prospects for oil and future development in the Arab World, which was organised by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

During the visit, Mrs. Dahl also met with a number of senior officials.

Earlier on Thursday, Mrs. Dahl toured Al Shomari Wildlife Reserve in Azraq, which is run by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN). She was accompanied on the tour by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jabir.

RSCN President Anis Muasher explained the society's develop-

ment, activities and goals, noting its efforts in the field of energy conservation.

The Swedish minister delivered a speech during the visit, in which she called for the exchange of experiences between Jordan and Sweden in environmental preservation and stressed the need for devising improved environmental strategies worldwide.

Mrs. Dahl also pointed out that there were many similarities between Jordan and Sweden with regard to their policies on the

preservation of nature and energy conservation.

She also stressed the importance of international and regional cooperation in solving environmental problems worldwide. "Without realisation of the proper means for exploiting and dealing with nature, we cannot achieve social and economic development in any country," Mrs. Dahl said.

Mrs. Dahl also visited other wildlife reserves, in addition to Jerash and the Jordan Valley.

Sharif Zaid returns after U.S. visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker returned to Amman on Thursday after a several-day official visit to the U.S. Sharif Zaid was received at the airport by Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleh, his assistants and the armed forces inspector general.

Haj Hassan to attend Tunis meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan will leave for Tunis on Sunday as the head of Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers, which will open there on Monday. Mr. Haj Hassan, who is also the president of the council's executive bureau, will submit a report on the bureau's achievements during the past year.

Conference urges increased economic ties between Arab and East European countries

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Delegations which attended a conference on promoting economic and trade cooperation among Arab and East European countries began departing on Friday, after the conference issued a final communique with its recommendations.

The three-day conference, which reviewed the trends and developments in trade and economic cooperation among Arab countries and socialist countries in Eastern Europe, ended here Thursday, calling out only for increased interaction between the two sides, but diversification of trade, as well.

During the conference entitled "Regional Colloquium for Arab Countries on Trade Promotion with Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe," participants representing 21 Arab and East European countries shared their views on the present situation.

The participants represented chambers of commerce in Arab and Eastern Bloc countries, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Federation of Arab Chambers of Industry, Trade and Agriculture and the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce.

Most of the participants agreed with Said Guehria, senior economic affairs officer at UNCTAD, in his assessment of relations between the Arab and Eastern Bloc countries. According to Mr. Guehria, the Arab countries' trade relations with the socialist countries are not at an appropriate level, regardless of all the efforts made towards their advancement.

"Socialist countries have good diplomatic and political relations with most Arab countries, yet despite all efforts made at the inter-governmental level, export turnover remains negligible if all possibilities are taken into account," Mr. Guehria said, noting that the one-per cent export turnover with socialist countries only included four Arab countries — Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Egypt.

"The total trade of all developing countries with the socialist countries accounts for no more than seven to eight per cent, of which the Arab World makes up two-and-a-half per cent," he continued. "The Arab World's major imports from the Eastern Bloc countries are machinery, equipment, and basic consumer commodities, such as meat and wheat. Socialist countries import

where and, as each market has its characteristics, exporters must adopt accordingly. This requires training."

Secondly, Mr. Guehria pointed out that the private sector has not been involved in economic interaction. "In order to expand the interaction, the private sector must identify trade opportunities and start to make transactions," he said.

When asked about the contradiction between the private sector and the socialist ideology, which supports a state-controlled economy, Mr. Guehria responded by saying that reforms currently underway in socialist countries have introduced a foreign trade system which will allow for more flexibility in their foreign trade.

He cited a new law adopted by the Soviet Union this year which allows for enterprises and organisations to start direct marketing without the traditional intermediary — the ministry of foreign trade.

Mr. Guehria also pointed to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria — two socialist countries following in Hungary's footsteps. In 1968, Hungary introduced more flexibility in its trade policies, more autonomy for trade organisations and facilitated permits for production organisations and joint ventures as a part of trade reform.

"The concept of interdependence has played an important role in actualising these reforms. After 50 or 60 years, the socialist countries have realised that there is need for reforms as they are inevitably affected by the international economic system. Isolation of North-South and East-West can not continue; there is a need for a comprehensive plan," Mr. Guehria said.

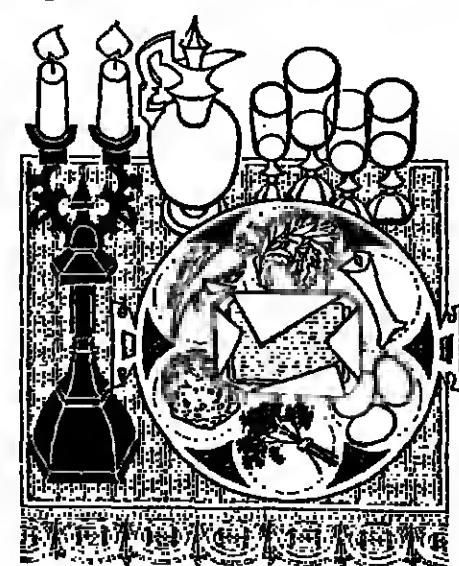
According to him, in order for the Eastern Bloc countries to improve their trade system and management and to become more active in the international trade market, such reforms are necessary.

"The purpose of this conference is to give the Arab World a chance to develop trade with the socialist markets and to identify these markets," he said. Mr. Guehria noted that resolutions to this effect have been passed by UNCTAD, which organised the conference.

Rawabdeh meets with German delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh has met with the president of the German-Jordanian Friendship Society, Mr. Kurt Uihlein, and the president of the Ludwig Frank-Stiftung for a free Europe Society. During the Thursday meeting Mr. Rawabdeh briefed the German visitors on Amman's development, policies and services. Later, the German delegation toured Amman and viewed projects which the municipality is carrying out.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Furthering Arab cooperation

THE Joint Jordanian Egyptian Higher Committee has met in Cairo to discuss bilateral cooperation in industry, trade, energy, transport and tourism. The ministers and senior officials accompanying Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to the meeting indicate clearly the importance Jordan attaches on the discussions which aim at further enhancing the process of integration between Jordan and Egypt. There is no doubt that this process is a positive factor for inter-Arab cooperation and solidarity, benefiting all other countries in general and Egypt and Jordan in particular. The higher committee has proved through its regular meetings, that it is implementing and following up the execution of projects which serve the national cause. It is only natural therefore for the leaderships of Egypt and Jordan to place confidence in this committee which tackles almost all aspects of cooperation between the peoples of Jordan and Egypt and endeavours to achieve prosperity for both on the basis of mutual benefit. Jordan which also maintains bilateral cooperation with Syria and Iraq hopes that through social and economic integration the Arabs can best achieve their aspirations and far-reaching objectives. Indeed, this is a constructive step leading the Arab World towards utilising its own potential for achieving prosperity for Arab masses.

Al Dustour: Envoys convey summit message

KING Hussein's envoys to various world capitals with messages from the monarch explaining the outcome of the extraordinary Arab summit are no doubt giving the summit resolutions momentum. These envoys' mission is complementary to the summit resolutions which brought about solidarity among the Arabs and re-established consensus that has been lacking for years. Jordan's efforts in this course of action and its dispatching of envoys to the world capitals are clearly designed to win further support for the Arab cause at this critical stage and as the Arabs continue to confront enormous challenges and threats from their enemies. The success achieved by the Arab leaders at the summit is now being enhanced and corroborated by the envoys' mission, and the mission is a means for aborting the conspiracies of the enemies of the Arab Nation. The Arab masses seem to be pinning their hopes and their aspirations on the consensus and the agreement of their leaders, and through spearheading efforts towards strengthening the Arab Nation's position, Jordan is helping to fulfil the aspirations of these masses. We back all efforts aimed at strengthening solidarity among Arab states and support endeavours to unify the Arab stand that can help the Arab masses achieve their objectives.

Sawt Al Shaab: Fruitful coordination

THE Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee meetings in Cairo represent a manifestation of Jordan's role on the pan-Arab level to bring about a comprehensive integration within the Arab World. Jordan is coordinating its economic and social policies with Egypt, the major Arab state which carries real political and military weight which should be made to rejoin the Arab fold and serve the Arab Nation's interests. Since deciding to restore its diplomatic ties with Egypt in 1984 Jordan has been taking one brave step after another for the sake of bolstering its ties with this major Arab country with the purpose of re-invigorating the Arab Nation and enabling the Arabs to confront their enemies in unified ranks. The meetings in Cairo, coming in the wake of a successful Arab summit in Amman, bear significance; and these discussions will no doubt gain more credence and achieve more success in the light of the consensus and the agreement achieved by the summit.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Two against the world

THE United Nations has condemned acts of terrorism, but two of its members refrained from doing so. One was the U.S. which abstained from voting, and the other was Israel which opposed the vote. The United Nations also called for an international conference to define terrorism and deplore all acts of terrorism committed around the world. But in the light of the United Nations voting, we can say that there is no real need for such conference since Washington's abstention and Israel's opposition to the vote present us with the required definition of terrorism. Terrorism is therefore all the actions committed by Israel and supported by the United States. A few years ago the United Nations unanimously deplored world Zionism, describing it as another form of racism. When the vote was taken, it was found that the United States abstained while Israel opposed the vote. That vote, which is a resolution by the international community, focuses the light on the true nature of Zionism which is a movement committed to all hostile actions that harm humanity and run contrary to all principles and values. Zionism embodies all forms of arrogance, lust for military power, occupation and expansionism through aggression. In the course of achieving its ends, Zionism committed massacres in the Middle East and brought about all forms of torture and sufferings to its peoples. The United Nations' condemnation of terrorism could be regarded as complementary to the previous resolution that deplored Zionism despite Israel's objection and U.S. abstention from voting. In the light of these resolutions any resistance to occupation should be regarded as a legitimate national act.

Al Dustour: Promoting bilateral cooperation

THE Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee opened a meeting in Cairo Thursday to follow up work on its previous resolutions and review earlier achievements. The new round of meetings represent another determined step on the part of Egypt and Jordan to promote the march of bilateral cooperation in economic and social fields. The committee's meeting is being held against a background of optimism for a stronger inter-Arab cooperation, following the historic outcome of the extraordinary Arab summit which achieved agreement and consensus among Arab states. There is no doubt that the Egyptian-Jordanian relations which have been developed, and witnessed a great deal of progress over the past three years presents a good example of brotherly cooperation within the Arab World.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

Israeli politics and peace prospects

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

IN HIS message marking the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, and sent to the United Nations Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, His Majesty King Hussein reaffirmed previous Jordanian policies and also hinted at new, perhaps dramatic changes in Jordanian thinking. In reaffirming Jordan's commitment to a peaceful resolution based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 338 of 1973 and 242 of 1967, curiously listed in that order, the King reviewed the frustrated efforts to reach a peaceful settlement and the continued stalemate since 1973 — a stalemate that Israel used to its advantage, not only in consolidating its colonisation-settlement programmes but in carrying on a programme of "humanely encouraging" the Palestinians to immigrate. "We ought to remember from the past ... [there is] a special relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians ... which imposed on us a common view ... [regarding] the nature of the Israeli aggression ... Therefore we consider such ideas which say that the struggle in Palestine is between two nationalities within a single entity as a mere theoretical view..." the King said. The struggle is not so, and past experience has proved that. The conflict, the King said is between the legitimate owners of the land and its usurpers and thus it is not a struggle among two nationalities existing within Palestine, but between the Palestinian Arabs, legitimate, and Israelis, usurpers, over the whole of the land. Where will this line of thinking lead is a matter best left to future developments.

Surely Israeli intransigence, and its arrogance of power are to blame for the continued stalemate in the peace process. It has become obvious that Israel responds only to power and that neither

the calls for justice, nor legality nor law have any meaning. Backed fully by a powerful ally, the United States, which has become totally captive to its own domestic power game, Israel, enjoying political and military imbalances in its favour since 1973, sees no reason for changing its expansionist aggressive policies. Only power can face power, otherwise the deadlock will continue.

While Jordan has been active in its peace efforts Israel has been active in thwarting them. The international peace conference as an instrument has been the victim of the stage-managed political game between the Likud and the Labour blocs. Not now, nor before was either bloc serious in pursuing a reasonable settlement and both were stalling for time needed to consolidate their colonial grip on the land. In fact, though perhaps not so apparent in rhetoric, both Israeli political blocs consider they already have the land and the problem has become what to do with the people; how to get rid of them. The struggle has entered a new stage and it has truly become a racial one. When in 1980 the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 3379 equating Zionism with racism I wondered as well as pondered the wisdom of our pressure to have it passed. Yet as time passed and as we have accumulated more resolutions in the wake of further Israeli aggressions, I wonder no more! Like the Afrikaans of South Africa, the Israelis identify with the land or think they do, but not with the people. They have come to depersonalise and dehumanise us just as the Nazis have done to European Jews. In their death arithmetic, the death of one hundred Arabs equals the death of one Israeli.

Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir have been quietly engaged in negotiating an agreement that following the next elections, due in

1988, they should continue as partners in a coalition government. A government in which again they will play the game of musical chairs where each will be premier for two years. Neither expects to win enough seats in the Knesset to form a government independently. The Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* which analysed the reasoning that lay behind these negotiations discounted any ideological difference between them and also emphasised that the Israeli public became accustomed to the idea of a coalition government.

It is obvious that this scenario does not leave much hope for the prospect of a peace settlement beyond 1988 and may be well into the nineties. Nor is it likely that the United States will change course; for, it too, will in 1988 be having its own presidential elections. There is no reason to hope that any positive change will occur. In this last month and while the United States House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly against the sale of F-15s to Saudi Arabia, negotiations were commenced with the Israelis to "sell" 75 F-16 fighter planes. The Israelis said they needed them! The annual \$3 billion aid to Israel will cover the sale no doubt. Mr. David Evi, director General of the Israeli ministry of "defence" added upon his return from Washington that the United States will allow Israeli defence ministry industries more chance to bid for American military projects.

The despair, covert and overt in the King's message, perhaps the hidden threat, emanates from such a bleak assessment. For while we are, and have been seeking peace, an honourable and a just one for all parties concerned, the coalition between the American and the Israeli Right, have been managing the stage, to contain and to manage, but not solve the crises of the area. We want peace and they simply want to pacify us.

Joint committee ends meeting

(Continued from page 1)

to hold a meeting of civil aviation officials from both countries to discuss possibility of exchange of exemption from civil defence fees or to amend the air transport agreement between both countries.

The two sides also agreed to increase the number of higher education fellowships granted to Jordanian students in Egypt to 15 during the academic year 1988-1989. They also agreed to holding an agreement of cooperation between Petra and the Middle East News Agency.

At the end of the meetings Mr. Rifai described the session as successful and said that achievements of the meetings constituted a step on the path of achieving integration between both countries.

Dr. Sedki expressed satisfaction by the outcome of the meetings saying that they took place in a brotherly atmosphere and that the two sides expressed keen interest in developing and enhancing bilateral relations in all fields.

Later on Friday, Mr. Sedki hosted a luncheon in honour of Mr. Rifai and the delegation accompanying him.

The Jordanian side to the meetings in Cairo include Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud, Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khateib, Minister of Higher Education Nasseruddin Al Assad, Minister

of Transport Ahmad Dakhlan and Minister of Information Mohammad Khatib, as well as Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan and Mr. Mohammad Saqqaf, under-secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Jordan's Ambassador to Egypt Hussein Hammami, Dr. Fayez Tarawneh, economic advisor at the prime minister's office, and Mr. Aktham Qousus, director of the prime minister's office.

The Egyptian side included the ministers of foreign affairs, planning, agriculture, transport, energy, electricity, information, industry, petroleum, economy and trade, tourism, civil aviation, scientific research, health and education as well as the governor of Egypt's central bank.

The committee said at the end of Thursday's meeting that agreement had been reached on entrusting the joint Jordanian-Egyptian holding company with taking charge of a fisheries company and another that will breed livestock and provide lean meat and also carry out feasibility studies on setting up a firm for producing agricultural seeds.

In energy, oil, electricity and mining, the committee decided that bilateral cooperation in solar energy should be continued. In transport it said agreement was reached on promoting operations along the Nweih-Aqaba land-sea route.

According to Minister of Information Khatib, the committee also decided to hold a meeting between the national air carriers of Jordan and Egypt to work out a formula for coordinating air transport operations.

Mubarak sends messages

(Continued from page 1)

feeling that we lost an opportunity," he said.

Mr. Peres' strategy was to push for two key concessions from the Soviet Union before the summit when Mr. Gorbachev was concerned about public opinion in the United States.

The conditions are free emigration for Soviet Jews and restoration of diplomatic ties.

In exchange, Israel would give a green light to Soviet participation in a Middle East peace process which would enhance Moscow's position in a region where America has long been dominant.

"I read... that Gorbachev is today the hero of the United States," Mr. Peres said. "From the Jewish point of view, this says that today he doesn't need very much to soften (things up to achieve) goodwill, and the conditions for his coming to the United States are quite good today, from his point of view."

Mr. Peres indicated he now pinned his hopes on another Soviet-American summit that he said was likely in May or June. "In this period between December and end of May the superpowers will discuss, of course, the regional issues... we can estimate that the Middle East issue will be discussed, too."

Sources in Mr. Peres' Labour Party said that after the Washington summit Mr. Peres would push for the superpowers to invite the leaders of Israel and Arab states to summit talks in Moscow.

Foreign ministry sources who demanded anonymity said Mr. Peres would be open to renewed efforts to bring Israeli and Arab leaders together under Soviet-American sponsorship.

Both sources spoke on condition of anonymity.

Israeli officials have said the

Israel stages army exercises

(Continued from page 1)

the attack for which the Syrian-based group Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has claimed responsibility for the hang-glider raid as well as the border clash.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has predicted a big Israeli attack on Lebanon that could include a land invasion.

"There is a big Israeli mobilisation," the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman told Kuwait's *Al Watan* newspaper in an interview published on Thursday.

"The strikes will be either by air and sea, using rockets and guns against Palestinian camps, or a temporary occupation of some areas where Palestinians

live."

Palestinian forces in South Lebanon have been on high alert since the Nov. 25 hang-glider attack. Israel has hinted at possible retaliation.

Mr. Arafat on Thursday also lauded the hang-glider raid and said it proved Israel's renowned "security" was a myth.

He said in a radio interview the attack demonstrated "there can be no barriers or obstacles to hinder a guerrilla who has decided to become a martyr."

"The operation proved that Israeli security is nothing but a myth which (Israel) could never preserve through its military forces or radar installations," Mr. Arafat told the rightist Voice of Lebanon radio.

LETTERS

No shady deals

To the Editor:

I have been extremely surprised by the comments made in an editorial of the Jordan Times (Dec. 3/4, 1987) about the latest developments which occurred in relation with the hostages of my country held in Lebanon and the so-called "embassies war."

These comments reflect an analysis which was unfortunately made in some "friendly" capitals and take no accounts of the statements made in France by officials about these issues in spite of the fact that these same statements are reported the same day in your newspaper.

Therefore, I don't find it necessary to comment at length on their content. Suffice it to state that France has paid no ransom for the release of Mr. Normandin and Mr. Auque and has not indulged in any deal involving armaments. This has been stated time and again at the highest official level in France.

As for Security Council Resolution 598, I would like to stress that France, along with some of the permanent members, but unfortunately not all, has been pressing for its early implementation in the proper order it sets, which implies, if needed, resorting to means provided for by the U.N. Charter. This French position has not changed as is well-known by all interested parties and, first of all, by Iraq. The latest developments have no bearing on France's constant policy towards the Middle East, particularly towards Iraq, and our position in relation with the Iran-Iraq conflict.

I would appreciate if you could make my remarks known to your readers.

Patrick Leclercq
Ambassador of France,
Amman.

Aziz lauds Iraq-Syria contacts

(Continued from page 1)

"Relations between Iran and Israel are deeper than a deal of exchanging weapons in return for (allowing) Iranian Jews (to leave Iran)," said Mr. Aziz, adding that

the ties could spread to Arab countries.

Documents seized by Swedish customs police say Israel sold Iran millions of dollars worth of explosives.

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How the Western media covered the extraordinary Amman summit

Scepticism grew into admiration as Arab conference's success forced reappraisal of anticipated results

By Lamis K. Andoni

AMMAN — The Western press coverage of the extraordinary Arab summit, which convened in Amman between Nov. 8-11, reflected an initial scepticism which gradually grew, as the summit progressed and ultimately concluded with agreement and consensus, into a rather surprised admiration and welcome of the outcome of the conference.

The Western media's appraisal of the summit's resolutions, however, was partly reflective of the Western perception of the situation in the Gulf and the dynamics of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Consequently, and as press analysts here pointed out, the Western press basically welcomed the "tough Arab stand against Iran and Syria's shift of position on the Gulf war and on relations with Egypt." Therefore, and not to the surprise of press analysts here, these two issues dominated the Western press coverage of the summit.

Analysts and observers in the region believe that the focus of the Western reports on these two issues and the way the summit resolutions were portrayed reflected two important dimensions directly related with the Western outlook of the political conditions in the region:

— First, unlike the Arab attitude towards Israel, the major ally of the U.S. in the area, the summit's conclusion that Iran constituted a threat to the Arab World was identical to the Western view of the Iranian danger to its interests in the region. Consequently some editorials in the Western newspapers could not conceal their pleasure at what they perceived as Arab consensus that "Iran and not Israel was the source of danger in the region." Thus some editorials chose to ignore the fact that the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war was draining Arab potentials, and consequently a prompt end to the war would foster efforts to confront Israeli threats.

— Second, Syria has long been perceived by the West as "a radical state which has been blocking the U.S.-led peace process and supporting 'terrorist groups'." Thus the apparent shift in the Syrian position at the summit was welcomed in the Western media as a strong indicator "that Syria was ready to change its foreign policy."

Western reporting, however, was not solely shaped by the Western perception of the situation in the region but also by the developments that characterised the events which immediately preceded the convening of the summit.

However, Western journalists could not have failed to point out that it was the expansion of the Iran-Iraq war to the other Gulf states, rather than the Arab-Israeli conflict, which brought the Arab leaders together for the first time in five years.

But judging by a reading of articles in selected British and American newspapers and magazines and interviews with press analysts here, the Western media's assessment of the summit's outcome appears to have been influenced by both the Western outlook, albeit to various degrees, and by the contradictory and sometimes confusing signals which kept emanating from the Arab parley concerning inter-Arab relations.

The influence of the latter was detected through contacts among local and Western journalists during the conference.

It has to be indicated in this context that this reading remains incomplete since it focuses on the American and British press coverage and due to the fact that not all the reports were available to the Jordan Times.

But in general there had been a gradual shift from outright scepticism into a positive welcome, albeit sometimes reserved, of the summit's resolutions. The most obvious exception was The Economist which criticised the summit for not severing relations with Tehran.

The Western press in particular highlighted the unified Arab position on the Iran-Iraq war, the shift in Syria's position on the Gulf, the Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation and the summit's decision over ties with Cairo.

The initial scepticism obviously stemmed from inter-Arab divisions which for so long hampered all previous efforts to convene a fully attended Arab summit. Furthermore, Western journalists

and experts had expressed doubts, in the weeks preceding the summit, that there could be a unified Arab position in support of Iraq or a resolution that would pave the way for a gradual return

The mere convening of the summit was a personal success for King Hussein — David Hirst, The Guardian, Nov. 8

of Egypt to the Arab fold.

Those doubts were strengthened only a few days before the summit, when Saudi Arabia's King Fahd announced that he was delegating Crown Prince Abdullah to head the Saudi delegation, and as rumours and speculations spread about a possible Syrian withdrawal if the issue of Egypt's readmission to the Arab League was to be on the summit's agenda.

In an editorial published on the eve of the summit, the British magazine Middle East International, said: "Prospects for any agreement on the major topics did not look bright."

The most pessimistic outlook, however, was expressed by the Israeli press rather than the Western press. An editorial published by The Jerusalem Post on Nov. 9 argued that the summit would deepen Arab differences. The editorial, which had the ominous title of "rifts beyond repair," outlined the stumbling blocks that the summit was facing, such as the Arab split over the Iran-Iraq war, the strained Syrian-Egyptian relations and finally the "conflicting" Arab positions over "negotiations with Israel."

Consequently, The Jerusalem Post's editorial came to a rather "confident" conclusion: "... There is good reason to believe, therefore, that rather than modulate the prevailing disputes, the conference may very well only serve to deepen them."

But even if reports in the Western press did not echo that ominous Israeli prediction, scepticism was soon replaced by reserved optimism as the conference opened and news about inter-Arab reconciliations started leaking to the hundreds of Arab and foreign journalists who had come to Amman to cover the event.

In general the first dispatches depicted the full-Arab attendance as a success in itself for the Arab World as well as a "personal success" for His Majesty King Hussein. In an article published in The Guardian on Nov. 8, David Hirst noted that "the mere convening of the summit was a personal success for King Hussein."

The initial reports also portrayed the serious mood of urgency that prevailed during the opening session as expressed in King Hussein's opening speech to the summit's first closed session.

International agencies and newspapers highlighted the King's plea to the Arab World for unity in order to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war and to confront Israel. The King's urgent call for a united Arab front was reported against the backdrop of the Iranian missile attack on Baghdad which coincided, or was most probably timed, with the opening of the summit.

By the second day of the summit news about a widely rumoured, but yet unconfirmed, reconciliation meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad was the theme of most agency dispatches and reports. But as news agencies carried reports of ongoing mediation efforts to arrange such a meeting, articles in the Western press started suggesting that the unthinkable could actually happen and that Damascus was actually ready to reconsider its position on the Gulf war.

"... But far from walking out of the meeting, as had been feared, President Assad agreed to attend a special session with President Hussein after 'a calm and objective' three-hour discussion of the differences, reported Ian Murray from The Times of London on Nov. 10. Other reports highlighted Jordan's efforts in bringing the two Arab leaders together. "King Hussein persuaded the leaders of Syria and Iraq... to discuss their differences at a meeting with five other lead-

ers on Monday (Nov. 9)." a Reuters dispatch said.

By Nov. 11, news about a Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation dominated Western reports which although described it as a breakthrough, were still extremely sceptical that the meeting between the two leaders had succeeded in ironing out the accumulated differences between Baghdad and Damascus. The journalists' scepticism seemed to be further substantiated by leaks about Syrian attempts to block a summit resolution endorsing a U.N.-ordered ceasefire plan between Iraq and Iran.

Thus most of the reports which appeared on Nov. 11 included speculation over the reasons which could have compelled or prompted Syria to change its heart, including pressure by the Gulf states, its "growing isolation" in the Arab World as a result of its relations with Tehran, and almost all the reports concluded that Syria's internal economic difficulties were instrumental in bringing about the change.

Other reports were less confident about Syrian readiness to endorse a summit resolution in support of Iraq.

In addition to news about the Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation and its implications, there were reports on a possible resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue following two meetings on Nov. 10 between King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat. The Western press reported that the PLO delegation was "initially isolated and neglected" before it was later included in the resolutions-drafting committee. The reports also included speculations about the possible final draft resolution on the Palestinian question. They included speculation on whether an Arab endorsement of a U.N.-sponsored international peace conference would define the form of PLO participation and the Arab position on Security Council Resolution 242. The meetings between King Hussein and Mr. Arafat also gave way to questions over a possible resumption of political coordination and consequently on whether there had been any change in previous positions by either side.

By the morning of Nov. 11, and while journalists were waiting for the final session, two developments captured the attention of the press. The first was statements by Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan that there was "a positive change in the Syrian position" and that Damascus was expected to endorse a resolution in support of Iraq.

The second was the first significant leak on Syria's position towards the PLO. According to a report, first carried by Reuters, the final session was delayed due to a last minute dispute over Syria's alleged attempts to block any reference to the PLO in the final communiqué. Hence by the time the closing session started, Syria's position on the Gulf war, relations with Egypt and the PLO remained a mystery despite repeated confirmations by Jordanian and other Arab officials that a consensus would be reached on all major issues.

Thus as Arab League Secretary General Chadi Khbi began reading the communiqué, journalists were glued to television sets, distributed all over the Royal Cultural Centre, unsure of what to expect next.

Western journalists enlisted the help of the local press for simultaneous translation, and as the tough worded Arabic communiqué became intelligible, Western journalists could not hide their disbelief at the explicit condemnation of Iran contained in the summit's resolutions.

At the beginning, many journalists focused all of their attention, though temporarily, on the long resolution on the Gulf and were particularly amazed at Syria's support of the communiqué's description of the Iranian actions as "criminal acts of aggression and provocation." What captured the journalists' attention was Syria's final acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 in toto.

Western journalists were no less surprised at the summit's unanimous decision (Libya was the only government to express reservations over the issue) to leave the door open for countries

to individually restore ties with Cairo and at the conference's support of PLO participation in the proposed international conference in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people on equal footing with the other parties.

The final communiqué seemed to contradict earlier reports about strong Syrian objections to an Arab condemnation of Iran, to the reestablishment of relations with Cairo and the reference to the PLO. Therefore many Western reports on the summit sought to explain the reasons behind the Syrian shift. In a lengthy analysis published in The Guardian on Nov. 13, Mr. Hirst wrote that the consensus achieved at the summit would not have been possible without Damascus' endorsement of the resolution.

"The unanimous and strongly worded summit proclamation — a little marred, it is true, by Libya's quick dissociation from it — was made possible by Syria's acquiescence to the will of the majority."

Mr. Hirst attributed Syria's shift of position to a number of factors including a need by Damascus to "relieve" its financial burdens, to assert its pan-Arab identity and to preempt being ostracised by the Arab countries for its support for Iran.

Almost similar conclusions were made by Marie Colvin of The Sunday Times who wrote on Nov. 15 that Syria "had little choice but to agree to censure" Tehran. Again The Sunday Times hinted that the change of position by Syria was part of a "deal" which involved promises of Arab aid to relieve the ailing Syrian economy.

The same assessment, in its broad outlines, was shared by both Christopher Dickey of Newsweek and Dean Fischer from Time magazine. In an article entitled "A Radical Returns to the Ranks," Mr. Fischer pointed out Jordan's successful role in drawing Damascus closer to other Arab countries' stands on the Gulf war.

Western journalists could not hide their disbelief at the explicit condemnation of Iran contained in the summit's resolutions.

In an article entitled "Summit of Brotherly Love," Mr. Dickie noted, however, that the Arab leaders were not seeking to alienate Damascus but the aim was to change Syria's position and consequently its role in Arab politics.

In general all of the articles described the summit as a success for Jordan as much as for the Arab World. But their interpretation of success varied. For while Mr. Hirst viewed it as "... a success in the historical perspective to forestall further exasperation of inter-Arab divisions," Ms. Colvin viewed it as a success of moderation "at the expense of Syria."

This "message of moderation," as was described by the New York Times, was welcomed by the influential American newspaper. In an editorial reprinted by the International Herald Tribune in its edition of Nov. 14-15, the New York Times expressed hope that the Arab "moderation" would help lift the peace process off the ground and foster American efforts to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 and consequently would make it "... harder for Moscow to resent an arms embargo against Tehran for not accepting the U.N. ceasefire."

The Times described the summit's communiqué as "astounding," for the conference had called "for an international peace conference to deal with Israel... and thundered at Iran in terms once reserved for Israel."

The Times' editorial and some of its reports drew strong criticism in the Arab World by some Arab writers who expressed anger at what they viewed as "a condescending tone."

In a lengthy article written by the well-known Arab columnist, Nasser Al Din Al Nashashibi, the Paris-based Al Mustakbal criticised some of the reports of both Mr. Murray from The Times of London and Mr. Thomas Friedman of The New York Times. Mr. Nashashibi was particularly

critical of an article by Mr. Friedman that implied that the Palestinian cause was pushed to the bottom of Arab priorities and that Iran had become the major enemy as Arab governments

...There is reason to believe that rather than modulate the prevailing (Arab) disputes, the conference may very well only serve to deepen them — The Jerusalem Post, Nov. 9

But even if reports in the Western press did not echo that ominous Israeli prediction, scepticism was soon replaced by reserved optimism as the conference opened and news about inter-Arab reconciliations started filtering to the hundreds of Arab and foreign journalists who had come to Amman to cover the event. Western journalists were no less surprised at the summit's unanimous decision to leave the door open for countries to individually restore ties with Cairo and at the conference's support for PLO participation in the proposed international conference.

seemed eager to make peace with Israel at any expense.

But it seems, from reading Mr. Nashashibi's articles and talking to press analysts that what really drew the criticism of some Arab writers was not the observations of the Western reporters per se but the implied Western rejoice at what was perceived as a shift in Arab priorities from facing Israel to confronting Iran.

"It is very rare that the Western press, particularly the editorials, has welcomed any unified Arab position to confront Israel while many newspapers could not conceal their joy at Iran's censure," a Jordanian press analyst said. "The clear implications in such editorials that they reflected hope that finally the Arab countries were moving towards accepting Israel."

The analyst noted that most articles ignored the fact that it was not the first time that the Arabs had called for a peaceful settlement for the Palestinian question and that an end of the Gulf war was relevant to converting all Arab efforts to confront Israel.

But some Western journalists, particularly Mr. Hirst, viewed the Arabs' preoccupation with confronting the Iranian danger as a drawback for the Palestinian cause. In his analysis the British journalist argued that the fact that it was the first summit ever not to be dedicated to the Palestinian question was in itself a drawback.

Other Western reports, including almost all dispatches carried by the international news agencies, agreed that "the Palestinian question was pushed to the back-burner to confront the Iranian threat."

This analysis contradicted the assessments of Arab officials who argued that the Arab-Israeli conflict remained the heart of the Arab causes and that a unanimous Arab stand to halt the Gulf war would contribute effectively to efforts to find a durable and just solution for the Palestinian cause. Surprisingly, however, few Western newspapers dedicated articles to discuss the implications of the resolution to restore ties with Egypt.

In fact this issue in particular was mostly referred to in the context of "Arab moderation" and of "the Arab World's growing need for Egypt's weight to confront the Iranian threat in the Gulf." The resolution was also discussed in articles as evidence of Syria's change of its stands; but many journalists also argued that the Arab formula on Egypt reflected Syria's "success in blocking a readmission of Cairo into

the Arab League."

Again Mr. Hirst viewed the resolution from an entirely different perspective. According to the prominent British journalist, the decision to restore relations with Cairo (while still bound to the Camp David accord with Israel) "... cannot but be seen as further diminution of the overall Arab commitment to the (Palestinian) cause."

In that this point in particular generated interest in the Israeli press which expressed hope that it would lead to an Arab acceptance of Camp David. Most Israeli journalists, and officials for that matter, "welcomed" the resolution as a strong indication of the Arab governments' readiness to enter into peace negotiations with Israel. These journalists mostly ignored the Arab endorsement of a U.N. sponsored international peace conference and focused instead on "the prospects of future direct negotiations, and even normalisation of Israeli-Arab relations," which the decision on Egypt was perceived to provide.

Yehuda Litani, The Jerusalem Post Middle East editor, seemed far less enthusiastic than his colleagues and he even disagreed with the general Israeli assessment. In a lengthy article published in the Post on Nov. 13, Mr. Litani suggested that the Arab decision could impede the normalisation of relations between Egypt and Israel.

"For the Egyptians, an official resumption of their ties with most Arab states, could mean a further cooling of ties of the already 'cold peace' with Israel, unless a breakthrough is not expected in the foreseeable future," Mr. Litani said. But since "such a breakthrough is not expected in the foreseeable future, the price of warming up relations with the other Arab states is a cooling of Egypt's relations with Israel," he concluded.

Ironically what Mr. Litani seemed to fear reflected exactly what Arab writers, who tackled the subject, were hoping for.

Both Al Mustakbal and the London-based Al Majala, which dedicated lengthy articles on Egypt, argued that the summit's resolution on Egypt would only be considered successful if it finally enabled Cairo to resume its Arab role in full. This could only be achieved if Cairo moved away from the Camp-David accords and closer to the Arab ranks, the magazines concluded.



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| Sat. — Dec. 5, 1987 | 10:20 Dorothy L. Sayers Mysteries Gaudy Night Last part |
| 8:30 Just Good Friends | |
| 9:00 Variety Show | |
| 10:20 Betty Ford Story | Harriet and Lord Petter work together to solve the mystery. Harriet's feelings for her friend begin to change. |
| | Wed. — Dec. 9, 1987 |
| | 8:30 Valerie |
| | 9:10 Doc. — Well Being Breaking Out |
| | Eight in ten of us suffer from depression at some time in our life, but there is still much shame and stigma attached to this common emotional affliction. The programme considers alternatives to drug therapy and bears some moving personal stories from people who have been laid low by depression and come through. |
| Sun. — Dec. 6, 1987 | 10:20 Flood tide |
| 8:30 Charles in Charge | 11:10 Hi De Hi |
| 9:10 One part Doc. — The Paper Clip Conspiracy | Thur. — Dec. 10, 1987 |
| The programme relates the story of the Nazi scientists during World War II, who were transferred by the Americans. | 8:30 TV Censored Bloopers |
| 10:20 The Equalizer | 9:30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents... |
| Mon. Dec. 7, 1987 | 10:20 Feature Film Who is Killing The Great Chefs of Europe? |
| 8:30 Kate and Allie | Starring: George Segal, Jacqueline Bisset, Robert Morley, Jean-Pierre Cassel, Philippe Noiret |
| 9:00 Communications | Fri. — Dec. 11, 1987 |
| 9:10 Falcon Crest Finders and Losers | 8:30 Comedy |
| 10:20 A Killing on The Exchange | 9:10 Against the Wind |
| Sir Max is made uneasy by an office visit from Makepeace's widow Isobel (Sian Phillips). She is determinedly seeking finance to set herself up in business and seems anxious to stir up memories of their past affair. | 10:20 Basketball |
| Tue. — Dec. 8, 1987 | |
| 8:30 Farrington of The F.O. | |
| 9:10 Remington Steele | |

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Salonika tops European Basketball Cup pool

LONDON (R) — Nick Gallis, the 1.83-metre tall god of Greek basketball who led his country to the European Championship last summer, took his club Aris Salonika to the top of the European Men's Champion Clubs' Cup final pool with an 89-88 win over F.C. Barcelona in Spain on Thursday.

Gallis, who had an American college career at Seton Hall in New Jersey, scored 45 points, following his 38 points in last week's win over Orthez of France. Aris is the only unbeaten team after two rounds of the final pool.

Defending champions Tracer Milan of Italy, who lost by 24 points to final pool newcomers Cologne last week, were again without their injured international forward Roberto Premier but still defeated Yugoslavia's Partizan Belgrade 93-83. Milan's former Los Angeles Laker Bob McAdoo scored 34 points.

Dutch team Nashua Den Bosch trounced Maccabi Tel Aviv 103-102 in overtime on Wednesday despite trailing 99-92 with only three minutes of the extra period to play.

American Paul Thompson, a 1.95-metre forward formerly with Cleveland, Milwaukee and Philadelphia in the National Basketball Association (NBA), kept the Dutch in the game with 46 points but local player Rob Korthout proved the match-winner.

Korthout spent most of regular time on the bench but scored seven points in the extra period after the scores were tied 92-92 at full time.

In the opening round of the men's Korac Cup quarter-final groups, Racing Club of Paris upset Italian league leaders Juventus Caserta 91-81 but the other ties followed form with home victories for Madrid, Cibona Zagreb, Red Star, Cantu and Jugoplastika.

The two semifinal groups of the Men's Cup Winners' Cup opened with a 108-106 overtime win for Limoges, former Korac Cup winners, away to English League leaders Kingston.

Kingston trailed 94-88 with two minutes to play but forced extra time with free throws from two English players.

Tuzla of Yugoslavia were the only away winners in the Women's Champion Clubs' Cup final pool with a 68-67 victory in Versailles, France, on Thursday.

In the women's Ronchetti Cup, Ancona of Italy needed two periods of overtime to beat the Hungarians of Budapest 97-93 after being tied at 79-79 and 87-87.

Frankham attacked Davies when the referee stopped Frankham's fight with Billy Sims in the first round after Sims had twice floored his opponent in the first two minutes of the bout.

Frankham, a professional fighter for only three months, refused to accept the referee's decision when Davies stopped the fight.

To booing from hostile sections of the crowd, the angry boxer, a nephew of former British champion Johnny Frankham, stormed around the ring showing his disgust, then waded into Davies.

Stewards huddled in vain for 15 minutes to try to quell the ensuing fighting that erupted between supporters of Frankham and Sims in the crowd and police were then called in.

Police escorted Davies from the ring as their colleagues ejected troublemakers from the hall.

John Morris, secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control, told reporters afterwards: "This definitely puts Frankham's career in some jeopardy."

He added: "I've issued warnings about his supporters to the promoters at each of his four fights. But there did not seem to be adequate stewarding here and it seems people have got hurt. It's disgraceful. It's one of the worst nights for British boxing for many years."

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Two-time world champion Maria Walliser of Switzerland broke out of a slump to lead a Swiss sweep as she captured the opening World Cup downhill ski event Friday, edging teammates Michelle Figini and Zoe Haas.

Walliser, the 1987 world champion in the downhill, was timed in 1 minute, 12.14 seconds down the 2,199-metre course. Figini, the 1984 Olympic and 1985 world champion, followed with 1:21.19. Haas finished third in 1:21.38.

Swiss women skiers took five of the top seven places with Brigitte Oertli fourth and Heide Zeller tied for seventh. Canada's Laurie Graham, who led two practice runs, finished fourth in 1:21.53.

Haas was the first of the top group down the slope and immediately set up a fast time. Graham, starting third in the race, finished behind Haas' time.

Figini came down seventh and trailed Haas at the first intermediate point, 56.37 seconds to Haas' 55.98.

Golden Saddle Trophy and the Golden Whip Trophy on Sunday. The winner of each race will get 100 points, the runner-up 40 points, third 25, fourth 15 and fifth 10 with the highest point-getter after the four races being declared the winner of the three million yen (roughly \$23,000). Top prize plus a gold trophy, they said.

Each jockey also gets a one-million-yen (\$7,600) allowance for one race.

Jockeys will ride a different Japanese horse in each of the four races.

Derby in 1975 and 1982; Cash Brian Asmussen of Ireland, winner of 896 races in North America and 546 in France through 1986; and Lance Anthony O'Sullivan, New Zealand's leading jockey with 502 victories in 1986 and 1987, according to the association.

Japan's three leading jockeys — Yukio Okabe, Hiroshi Kawachi and Katsumi Minami — will also compete in the two-day races.

The Golden Spur Trophy and the Golden Boots Trophy races will be held on Saturday and the

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Chess experts felt that both players could be content with the result of the 19th game.

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Kampuchean rivals sign outline of peace plan

FERE-EN-TARDENOIS, France (R) — Kampuchean resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Vietnamese-backed Prime Minister Hun Sen signed a four-point agreement on Friday aimed at accelerating efforts to end Kampuchea's civil war.

The accord calls on the other two parties to the conflict, partners in Prince Sihanouk's tripartite guerrilla alliance, to join political negotiations to end nine years of guerrilla warfare.

It said Communist and non-Communist factions, whether pro-Vietnamese, pro-Chinese, or pro-Western, must get together immediately to build a new democratic, independent Kampuchea.

A text of the agreement was distributed to journalists.

It was the first signal from Phnom Penh's Soviet-backed, Vietnamese-installed government that it is ready to negotiate with the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge ousted by Vietnam in 1978 and blamed for hundreds of thousands of deaths.

In an indication that the meeting in a luxury hotel in eastern France marked a major breakthrough in the Kampuchean stalemate, the two opponents said they would meet here again in January, three months earlier than originally scheduled.

The accord, entitled a joint

statement, was celebrated with champagne in an upstairs room of the 13th century converted castle where the former monarch has been meeting the 36-year-old Phnom Penh premier.

The agreement said that after "a historic meeting" the two sides had agreed that:

— The Kampuchean conflict must be resolved politically.

— The Kampuchean problem must be settled by the Kampuchean people through negotiations between all parties to the conflict to halt bloodshed and rebuild an independent, sovereign and non-aligned country.

— As soon as an agreement emerges between the Kampuchean parties, an international conference will be called to guarantee Kampuchea's independence as well as peace and stability in South East Asia.

— The two parties agree to meet again in January 1988 at Fere-En-Tardenois.

The statement said the two men would hold a third meeting in the North Korean capital of

Pyongyang at an unspecified date.

It added: "On the basis of this accord and in the supreme interest of the Kampuchean nation, the two parties invite the other Kampuchean parties to join them at the negotiating table in order to reach a rapid settlement."

The agreement made no reference to any timetable for the withdrawal of Vietnam's estimated 140,000 troops backing the Hun Sen administration against Prince Sihanouk's rebel forces.

After raising his glass to the prime minister, Prince Sihanouk said: "If we do not reach an agreement in 1988, it will be in 1989 and we will see each other in Phnom Penh."

The 65-year-old prince, looking relaxed and cheerful, said: "We have attained concrete results, the door is open, but there is still quite a way to go before reaching our goal. Together we will get there."

Prince Sihanouk reiterated that any lasting solution depended on Kampuchea becoming a parliamentary democracy rid of every last Vietnamese soldier.

There has been no response, however, from the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful faction in Prince Sihanouk's rebel coalition.

13 die in Rwanda plane crash

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — A private plane carrying 13 people, including 11 American tourists, crashed in a mountainous area of north western Rwanda killing all aboard, officials said Friday.

The Cessna 404 propeller-driven aircraft was on a flight from Goma, Zaire, to Nairobi when it crashed Thursday afternoon near the village of Kanama.

"There were 11 Americans aboard, a Kenyan pilot and a Zairois," a spokesman at the U.S. embassy in Nairobi said. They all were killed.

John Ouma-Daniel, an executive with Cooper Skybird Air Charters of Nairobi, which owned the plane, said a group of Americans chartered the aircraft on Nov. 30 for a safari to Zaire. He said the plane was due back Thursday.

"There were 13 people aboard — 12 passengers and the pilot," he said.

The victims names were not being released, pending notification of relatives.

Rwanda's government-owned radio quoted witnesses as saying the plane crashed into a tree and the impact threw it against a hill where the aircraft exploded in flames.

Romanian named to U.N. grievance body

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A Romanian was recommended on Thursday for appointment to a U.N. staff grievance panel, despite objections Romania itself had violated rules by preventing a U.N. official from returning to his post in Geneva.

Representatives of 20 countries said they dissociated themselves from a decision by the General Assembly's Administrative and Budgetary Committee recommending that Ioan Voicu, a Romanian nominated by the East European group, be named to the seven-member U.N. Administrative Tribunal.

Western countries cited the case of Liviu Bota, who was summoned before to Bucharest in November 1985 and prevented from resuming his post as director of the U.N. Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).

Objections were voiced by Denmark, on behalf of the 12-nation European Community; by New Zealand, also on behalf of Australia and Canada; by Norway, also on behalf of Sweden and Iceland and by the United States and Japan.

He was offered a new U.N. contract at the end of 1986 but was still barred from leaving Romania, despite efforts by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Acting without a vote, the assembly committee recommended Mr. Voicu and Mr. Francisco Forteza of Uruguay to three-year terms on the Administrative Tribunal beginning on Jan. 1, 1988.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (Agencies) — Threats of a general strike and revolution have not swayed the ruling junta from its plans to name a new Electoral Council and make a second try at national elections, a government source said.

The government, in a televised announcement Thursday night, named a six-member committee to investigate the violence that caused the cancellation of Haiti's first free elections in 30 years.

Presidential candidate Sylvio Claude, meanwhile, called for a general strike starting Friday to protest the junta's dissolution of the first Electoral Council. There were no immediate signs the call attracted great support.

The government source said the junta would pick new Electoral Council members if the Roman Catholic Church, the Protestant Federation, human rights groups and other civic organizations did not do so themselves.

"Naming new representatives is not the intention of the government, but according to the constitution, if institutions don't respond it is up to the government to select the council," said the government source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The civilian groups failed to meet a government-set deadline of midnight Thursday (0500 GMT Friday) to name new representatives to the election board.

The first Electoral Council stopped the Nov. 29 national

Muslims hold first conference in China

PEKING (R) — Muslims from the Middle East, Africa and Pakistan gathered in Peking on Friday to lecture Chinese believers for the first time under Communist rule — but said they aimed to avoid breaking China's ideological ban on foreign missionaries.

Religious leaders from Egypt, Ghana, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Turkey met representatives of China's 35 million Muslims on the opening day of an Islamic gathering for preachers and preaching, organized by the Muslim World League.

League Secretary-General Abdullah Omar Naseef said in an opening address to 100 Chinese believers that Muslims could only regain their former supremacy in the world by adhering to the tenets of Islam.

"Islam has set down the basic rules of economics and politics that Muslims should adhere to," the Saudi Arabian said.

Officials of the Saudi Arabia-based league said the four-day conference was its first such meeting in a Communist country and the climax of China's thawing attitude to Islam.

Muslims were harshly persecuted during the country's Cultural Revolution from 1966-76.

Saudi Arabia, which has provided the largest visiting contingent, has no diplomatic relations with China.

But the Muslim group has provided Chinese believers with

books, foreign scholarships, aid for Mecca-bound pilgrims and cash to build mosques since 1979.

Mr. Naseef said there was "some sensitivity" in China over the conference, which Middle Eastern media earlier this week said would focus on missionary work and discuss studies by Islamic scholars.

Officials of China's Islamic Association said on Friday the "missionary" description was inaccurate.

"We receive help from Saudi Arabia and other countries, but we propagate Islam ourselves," said one. "We are not allowed to have foreign missionaries."

Kuwaiti Muslims provided \$175,000 for the building of a mosque opened in the port city of Qionghuangdao last month.

China's Islamic Association, along with other state-sponsored religious bodies, urges its members to support Communist Party policies.

Islam spread from the Middle East into China more than 1,000 years ago. Most present-day adherents belong to ethnic minorities in the north and west of the country.

Saudi organisers said the conference posed problems of communication, with most Chinese delegates able to read but not speak Arabic.

China now encourages links between its official Christian churches and foreign religious groups.

Sri Lankan deputy says Indians attacked civilians

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — A curfew clamped on Batticaloa district following a wave of civilian deaths was lifted Friday morning, while an opposition parliament member charged that Indian soldiers had deliberately killed more than 40 civilians in the eastern district.

An Indian diplomat in Colombo and the Foreign Ministry in New Delhi denied any civilians were deliberately killed, saying Indian troops only fired back at Tamil rebels who attacked them.

Sri Lankan parliament member Haseen Ashraf said Friday that Indian troops attacked the neighbouring villages of Otamawadi and Thuyavaddan and shot passengers on a bus on Thursday in revenge for the deaths of nine

Indian soldiers in an ambush by Tamil rebels a day earlier.

He maintained that more than 40 people were killed by Indian soldiers. Ashraf, a member of the opposition Freedom Party, is a Muslim, as were many of those killed in the villages south of the city of Batticaloa.

A spokesman for the Indian High Commission said Thursday that 24 people had been killed but insisted they were caught in an exchange of mortar fire between Indian soldiers and Sri Lankan Tamil rebels.

There was confusion over the death toll — with Sri Lankan military officials and Tamil residents saying at least 32 were killed.

Police stop Sikhs from marching to New Delhi

FATEHGARH SAHIB, India (R) — Police stopped 2,000 rebellious Sikhs from marching to New Delhi to press demands for political concessions in the strife-torn northern state of Punjab.

The Sikh leaders and their supporters assembled outside a temple in the Sikh pilgrimage town of Fatehgarh Sahib, 50 kilometres from the Punjab state capital Chandigarh, but police and magistrates said the march had been banned.

Sikh leaders want a political settlement in Punjab which has been ruled directly by New Delhi since last May when Prime Minister

Rajiv Gandhi sacked a moderate Sikh government on the grounds it had failed to contain growing violence.

They also want freedom for Sikhs detained on national security grounds and rehabilitation for dismissed Sikh soldiers who mutinied after the 1984 Indian army assault on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

Prakash Singh Badal, a former Punjab chief minister who was freed from detention two days ago, told reporters: "What other avenues are open to use if the peaceful march is had?"

Haiti names committee to probe violence

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (Agencies) — Threats of a general strike and revolution have not swayed the ruling junta from its plans to name a new Electoral Council and make a second try at national elections, a government source said.

The government, in a televised announcement Thursday night, named a six-member committee to investigate the violence that caused the cancellation of Haiti's first free elections in 30 years.

Presidential candidate Sylvio Claude, meanwhile, called for a general strike starting Friday to protest the junta's dissolution of the first Electoral Council. There were no immediate signs the call attracted great support.

The government source said the junta would pick new Electoral Council members if the Roman Catholic Church, the Protestant Federation, human rights groups and other civic organizations did not do so themselves.

"Naming new representatives is not the intention of the government, but according to the constitution, if institutions don't respond it is up to the government to select the council," said the government source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The civilian groups failed to meet a government-set deadline of midnight Thursday (0500 GMT Friday) to name new representatives to the election board.

The first Electoral Council stopped the Nov. 29 national

elections just three hours after balloting had begun, in order to avoid further violence against voters. Soldiers and machete-wielding thugs killed 34 people and wounded 75, many of whom were standing in line at polling stations.

The government then dissolved the council, saying it had overstepped its constitutional bounds. The government said new elections would be held once members to the second electoral board are named.

"We cannot be expected to approve the arbitrary and illegal decree of Nov. 29, nor the massacre of Nov. 29 which served as a prelude to the decree," said a coalition of human rights groups in rejecting the government's plans to name Electoral Council.

The human rights groups said Haiti's constitution requires the original Electoral Council to be in charge of the election process until a new government is installed on Feb. 7, the second anniversary of Dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier's flight to exile in France.

Duvalier and his father, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier, ruled the nation for 29 years.

Louis Roy, one of the key drafters of the constitution approved overwhelmingly in a referendum this year, said the government misinterpreted constitutional guarantees of an independent Electoral Council.

The Rev. Jean Bertrand Aris-

tide, a popular Roman Catholic priest, on Thursday called for a "real revolution" to oust the junta.

"Elections are not possible with this criminal government, which wants rigged elections to put a Macoute in office," Rev. Aristide said.

Rev. Aristide was referring to the Tontons Macoute, the Duvaliers' dreaded private militia.

Mr. Claude told reporters Thursday that the general strike was "to continue until the departure of the junta."

"If the junta does not resign, we ask for the intervention of a multinational observer force to supervise elections and guarantee security. I just want people not to be killed anymore," Mr. Claude said.

There were, however, no long lines at supermarkets or gas stations to indicate that people were hoarding supplies for a long strike.

The Association of Public Employees, which represents many of the country's 70,000 public employees, called for a general, open-ended strike to begin Monday.

The Reagan administration has not considered intervening in Haiti following the cancellation of the elections amid widespread violence, the White House said on Wednesday.

Spokesman Martin Fitzwater said the United States was watching the situation closely.

COLUMNS 7&8

Prisoner fails in pool ploy

LOS ANGELES (R) — A prisoner escaped from a Los Angeles courthouse, stripped down to his undershorts and jumped into a nearby hotel swimming pool. When police arrived, the prisoner, Dennis Westerlund, shouted from the pool: "He went that way, officer." "He might have got away with it — if he had escaped in the summertime," Police Lieutenant Joe Valente said on Wednesday. "He was the only one in the pool." Westerlund, accused of robbery, was ordered out of the pool and taken into custody.

2 years work needed on the 'Last Supper'

MILAN, Italy (R) — Restorers of Leonardo Da Vinci's masterpiece "the last supper" said on Thursday that it would take at least two years to complete their work on the 15th century fresco. Pinin Baccillon Brambilla, in charge of the job which started last May, told journalists the restoration would be definitive and remove all additions made to the fresco by previous artists and restorers. Only 15 visitors at a time are allowed to enter the former monastic refectory in Milan's Santa Maria Delle Grazie Church where the masterpiece is housed. Brambilla said parts of the fresco had been irretrievably damaged because of dust, temperature changes and vibrations from traffic.

Eyes secrete pencil-erasing substance

PEKING (R) — Chinese doctors are treating a 10-year-old girl whose eyes secrete a substance that will rub out pencil marks, the New China News Agency reported. The rubber-like substance appears to be a kind of polymer and leaves a grey granulated deposit on the girl's eyelids, it quoted doctors in west China's Xinjiang province as saying. Only two similar cases have been discovered in China. Both were 10-year-old girls, the agency said.

Cashew nut to boost space programme

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian scientists think cashew nuts belong in orbit. Minister of State for Science and Technology K.R. Narayanan told parliament a heat-resistant resin, based on liquid extracted from cashew nut shells, can be used as a heat shield for spacecraft. Narayanan said the resin was developed by the Regional Research Laboratory in the southern state of Kerala. India's largest cashew nut producer.

Works by Le Corbusier get high prices

LONDON (AP) — Art works by the architect and city planner Le Corbusier, who died in 1966, sold for unexpectedly high prices at auction in London. Sotheby's said it sold 31 of 35 offered paintings, drawings, collages and sculpture for a total £1,597,310 (\$2.89 million), most going well above estimates. The seller was a foundation established by the artist's estate after his death in 1965. The top price, paid by a European private buyer, was £390,500 (\$710,700) for "The Guitar and the Model" (La Guitare Et Le Mannequin) of 1927. A Japanese dealer identified only as Mono Art bought a painting for £110,000 (\$199,100) and a wood sculpture for £48,400 (\$87,600). Le Corbusier was born Charles-Edouard Jeanneret in Switzerland in 1887 and became a French citizen in 1930. Heidi Weber, his wife, wrote in the sale catalogue that her husband started painting in 1918 to 1919. From 1928 onward he used the signature "Le Corbusier," the name of one of his grandfathers. Most of the works sold were in a semi-cubist style, depicting people, animals and objects in a manner strongly influenced by the style of the French artist Fernand Leger.

Einstein manuscript sells for \$1.1m

NEW YORK (R) — The earliest surviving version of Einstein's "theory of relativity" was sold at auction at Sotheby's for \$1,155,000, the highest price ever paid for a manuscript in America. The 72-page handwritten manuscript was written in 1912 and lists his famous E=MC squared equation with an extra algebraic constant that was crossed out. A Sotheby's spokeswoman said the manuscript, given by Einstein to friends, was bought by a private dealer for an anonymous client. It had been expected to fetch about \$700,000. The name of the seller was withheld by Sotheby's. Einstein published his most famous theory in 1915. In it, he postulated a constant velocity for light (C) and its consequence, the equivalence of mass (M) and energy (E). In the version sold at Sotheby's, the equation E=MC squared is listed as EL=MC squared with the "L," an extra algebraic constant, crossed out. The early version was written for a series of scientific articles being published by a German professor, but the series was never printed because of World War I. The version survived because Einstein had given it to friends as a gift. Usually he discarded his manuscripts once they were published. The world record price for a manuscript was the \$11.8 million paid in 1983 for the "Gospels of Henry the Lion," which was sold in London.

Queen's nephew gets 2nd driving ban

BRENTFORD, England (AP) — Viscount Linley, a nephew of Queen Elizabeth II, has pleaded guilty to speeding at 110 miles an hour (176 kph) and got his second driving ban in two months. The 26-year-old custom furniture designer, who is the son of Princess Margaret, the queen's sister, was the first royal family member to be disqualified from driving. Linley, who is 10th in line to the throne, lost his licence for six months on Sept. 21 and was fined £100 (then \$165) for driving 98 mph (157 kph) on a highway outside London on June 10. Three days before that court appearance, he was stopped on a highway in Bedfordshire north of London for doing 100 mph (176 kph). The highway speed limit is 70 mph (112 kph). The Brentford magistrates court on Thursday disqualified him for five months for the second offence but made the bans concurrent, meaning Linley can get his licence back on May 4. He was also fined £300 (\$540) and ordered to pay £15 (\$27) in prosecution costs. His attorney, Michael Sullivan, had argued against a second ban, saying the first "has had the intended effect." "Viscount Linley very much regrets the commission of the offence. He wishes to apologise to the court and the police for the inconvenience that has been caused," the attorney said. Sullivan also defended Princess Anne's husband, Mark Phillips when he escaped a ban for driving at more than 100 miles an hour (160 kph).

Court asked whether ex-queen can enter Italy

ROME (AP) — The Italian government has asked for a court opinion on whether the widow of the last king of Italy can return to the country after a 41-year exile imposed by the constitution, officials have said. Ex-Queen Maria Jose, who lives in Switzerland, has written several letters asking to visit the country. Premier Giovanni Goria's office in turn asked the Council of State, an administrative court, for an opinion. Italian news agencies said the court will take up the case on Dec. 10. The opinion is not binding, and the government has not said what it would do should the court say the ex-queen can return for a visit. The constitution says "former kings of the House of Savoy, their wives and their male descendants may not enter or remain in Italian territory." Some constitutional experts say the clause is no longer valid since her husband, Umberto II, died four years ago. Umberto reigned for 26 days before being forced into exile in 1946 after a referendum abolished the monarchy. He died in Geneva, Switzerland, of bone cancer at the age of 78.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1-800-TRUMP-ANSWERS, Inc.

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A Q J 6 3 ♣K 10 2 ♠A ♣K 7 4
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 Pass 1 Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—Since partner has made a reverse bid, you are in a forcing auction. In the modern style, the only aggressive bid you have available is two no trump and, in some sequences, a relay of your own suit—say, other bid is game-forcing. Therefore, you need no more than bid three hearts now, setting the suit. If partner simply goes on to game, you are just worth a one-bid or four spades to alert him to the possibility of a slam.

Q2.—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A Q J 9 ♣A Q 8 5 2 ♠7 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 Pass 1 Pass
What action do you take?
A.—If you could be sure that you had a second heart stopper or that one of your suits would run, you might venture three no trump. Here, however, you cannot be certain your side has a game, so take the safe profit by punishing the opponents' Double.

Q3.—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A Q J 10 6 3 ♣J 8 2 ♠K 7
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 Pass 1 Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—Obviously, the choice lies between an immediate cue-bid or some spade bid. We prefer an immediate jump to two spades. The trouble with a cue-bid now is you might not have enough room later to encourage partner of the quality

of your spades. You can always cue-bid hearts later.

Q4.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A Q J 7 ♣A 2 ♠A K J 10 6 3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 Pass 1 Pass
What action do you take?
A.—There is a strong temptation to bid three no trump. However, even if that is the right final contract, it is by no means sure that you should declare it. We would much prefer a bid of three hearts, advising partner of our intentions and allowing him to convert to three no trump if he has both unbid suits stopped.

Q5.—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A Q 8 3 ♣K 10 ♠A 8 3 ♣6 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 Pass 3 Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—The reply depends on your methods. If you play limit raises, your hand is worth four spades and no more. If you play forcing jump raises, you could be in slam territory, and the way to investigate is with a cue-bid of four diamonds.

Q6.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A Q J 9 4 ♣9 ♠K 10 3 ♣A Q 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 Pass 2 Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—You have to decide whether to support partner's suit or to stress the quality of your hand and your spades. We would jump to three spades, which conveys to partner both parts of this latter message.

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